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NASSAU, N.P.

BAHAMAS, WITH ILLUSTRATIONS FROM PHOTOGRAPHS

ISSUED BY THE

NEW YORK, NASSAU, AND WEST INDIA MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE

AND THE

SAVANNAH NASSAU & HAVANA MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.

ROYAL VICTORIA HOTEL NASSAU.

With Meteorological Tables and other Statistics interesting to invalids and Travelers.

MURRAY FERRIS & CO.

62 SOUTH ST. N.Y.

AGENTS OF THE LINE.

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NASSAU,

ISLAND OF NEW PROVIDENCE,

BAHAMAS.

A GUIDE TO

The Sanitarium of the Western Hemisphere,

ITS ATTRACTIONS,

AND

HOW TO GET THERE;

WITH

ILLUSTRATIONS FROM PHOTOGRAPHS, METEOROLOGICAL TABLES, AND OTHER STATISTICS OF INTEREST TO INVALIDS AND TRAVELERS;

INCLUDING

"AN ISLE OF JUNE."

REPUBLISHED FROM

Scribner's Monthly for November, 1877.

U. S. A.
U. of WASHINGTON

ISSUED BY THE

NEW YORK, NASSAU AND WEST INDIA MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE,
SAVANNAH; NASSAU AND HAVANA MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE;
(Via St. Augustine, Florida;)
AND THE ROYAL VICTORIA HOTEL OF NASSAU, N. P.

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Key West
GREAT ABACO
ELEUTHERA
NEW PROVIDENCE
NASSAU
CAT I. or St. Salvador
Discovered by Columbus Oct. 1492
WATLINGS I.
ANDROS ISLAND
GREAT EXUMA
LONG I.
CROOKED I.
HAVANA
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CARIBBEAN SEA
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FLORIDA
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NASSAU, N. P.,

BAHAMAS.

"The air breathes upon us here most sweetly."

The Sanitarium of the Western Hemisphere.

TO THOSE WHO DESIRE HEALTH, LONG LIFE AND PLEASURE, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION OF THE FINEST AND MOST EQUABLE WINTER CLIMATE IN THE WORLD—LOVELY SCENERY! SPLENDID YACHTING! FINE SEA BATHING! CHARMING DRIVES! &c., &c., &c.—IS COMMENDED:—

THE History of the Bahamas began in 1492, when COLUMBUS, the great pioneer, navigator and discoverer of a new world, landed on the shore of Guanahani, and named it "St. Salvador." Commerce did not immediately follow in the wake of discovery, but about two hundred and fifty years after that event Pine Apples were grown at and exported from Eleuthera; and fifty years later cotton was extensively cultivated, and Salt and Wood added to the exports. At the present time the colony's staples are Salt, Fruit, Sponge, Barks, Dye and Furniture Woods, Guano and Straw, Turtle Shell, Fish Scale, and Shell Work. The articles on exhibition at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia fairly represented the productions and manufactures of the Islands, and both might be indefinitely extended. But it is not the commercial resources of the "Bahamas" only which should make a knowledge of them general.

Their equability and wonderful salubrity of climate commend them to all who seek a genial, healthy, life-giving atmosphere. As a winter home for the afflicted, PETER HENRY BRUCE wrote, nearly a century and a half ago, "It is no wonder the sick fly hither for relief, being sure to find a cure here." Modern travelers also testify that as a resort from damp and cold to sunshine and summer, for those who require change and climatic benefit, the Bahamas offer peculiar advantages. The heat is tempered by an ocean breeze of softness and purity seldom experienced elsewhere. Tropical flowers gladden the eye, and the luscious pine-apple, orange, pomegranate and melon tempt the palate with their freshness and beauty. Fish abound in the clear pellucid waters surrounding these Islands, and the northern fowl seek a home on the lakes. In a word, the Bahamas seem by nature fitted as a grand sanitarium for the afflicted from the North American Continent, and as a most desirable winter resort for all who wish to escape the rigors of a Northern season.

New Providence is the most important of the Bahamas group; Nassau, its chief and only town, was settled by Europeans in 1629, since which time it has been the seat of government. It is situated in north latitude 25° 5', and west longitude 77° 20', covering an area of 85 square miles, with a population of about 12,000. Its history is full of interest to the student, but limited space and a desire to place before the reader important facts regarding it as a winter resort, compel us to ignore the claims of both history and romance.

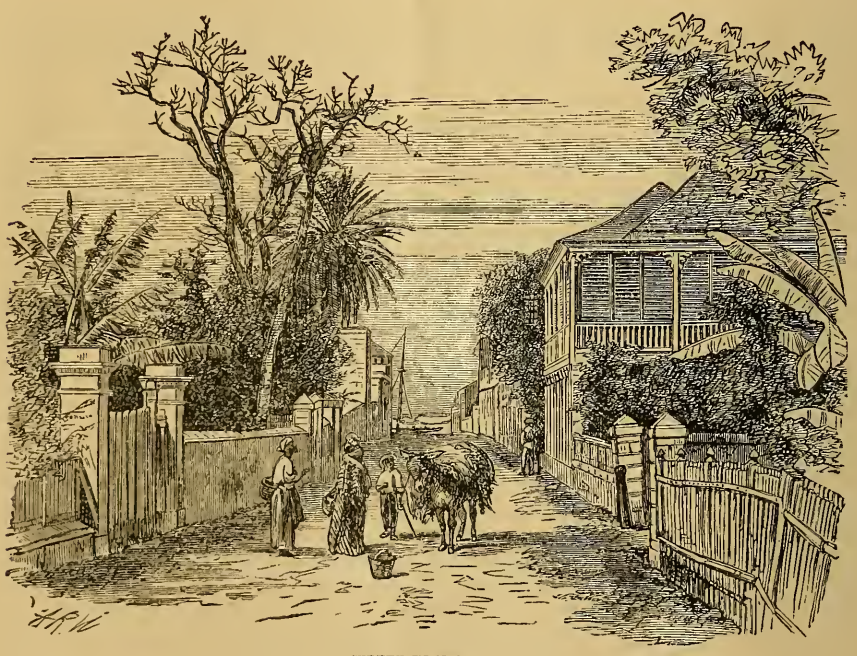
The City of Nassau is built on the northern side of the Island, which slopes down

to the water's edge, affording sure and perfect drainage. It extends along the water-front for about three miles and back to the crest of the slope, on which stands the Government House, the Royal Victoria Hotel, and many of the finest private residences, at an elevation of about 90 feet from the waters of the harbor. The streets are laid out at right angles with each other, and are uniformly macadamized, as are also the drives around the Island. The houses are, for the most part, built of stone, and the grounds surrounding them are ornamented with flowers and trees. The City has a fine public library of over six thousand volumes. Nassau has as much right to be called "the City of Churches" as our own Brooklyn. All creeds find themselves at home in the services of the various churches and chapels.

The drives are not to be excelled—the roads being equal to the best; the scenery, both seaward and inland, is varied and beautiful, and the harbor and neighboring waters afford at once a safe and extensive boating ground; while the shores are covered with marine treasures in the form of shells and corals. In the interior and on the out Islands game rewards the labors of the sportsman; while the adjacent waters supply fish in abundance, unrivaled for beauty and size.

The Royal Victoria Hotel was built by the Government in 1860, to meet the demands of invalids and others seeking to avail themselves of the peculiar advantages offered by Nassau for a winter residence, and neither pains nor expense was spared in answering the requirements of the most modern and scientific theories of architecture.

The building is of limestone, four stories high; each of the three first stories being surrounded by a piazza ten feet wide, forming an uninterrupted promenade of over one thousand feet in extent—affording to those unable to withstand the fatigue of out-door exercise perfect facilities for enjoying the fine scenery and refreshing breezes. The rooms are large and perfectly ventilated; those of the first, second and third stories being provided with French casements, opening on the piazza, and each door and window having a fan-light. The house is provided with bath-rooms and other modern improvements. The tanks for rain water exceed 300,000 gallons in capacity; while spring water is forced through the building from a fine well on the premises. The parlors are



STREET IN NASSAU.

large and conveniently situated. The dining room will seat one hundred and fifty persons comfortably. Sea-bathing is conveniently near the house, and salt water baths, either in the bathing-rooms or private apartments, can be furnished at all times.

The hotel has recently changed hands, the present proprietors being Messrs. Mellen, Conover and King. Mr. A. L. Mellen, and the Superintendent, Mr. H. L. Hoyt, have been for the past two years connected with the Grand Union Hotel, Saratoga Springs.

Mr. A. H. King, of this firm, can be consulted as to particulars during the entire season, at 115 Broadway, New York, where plans of the house can be seen and rooms engaged.

After an experience of several years, the following mail and passenger service has been arranged as best suited to the requirements of Nassau as a winter sanitarium and pleasure resort:

A first-class steamer, with ample passenger accommodations, will be despatched *monthly*, throughout the year, from New York direct to Nassau, and from thence to Santiago and Cienfuegos on the south side of Cuba, returning to Nassau and thence to New York direct.

During the winter season a first-class steamer, specially adapted to the carriage of passengers, will be run between Savannah, Ga.; St. Augustine, Fla.; Nassau and Havana, leaving Savannah every *two weeks*, thus forming the most delightful winter excursion ever offered in American waters, combining Florida, Nassau and Havana, with their varied scenes of tropical life.

One of the most charming incidents of this trip is the opportunity of taking St. Augustine in the direct route, either by making it the point of departure or stopping over a trip on the arrival of the steamer from Savannah, and seeing the rare old town, with its many balconied houses; its semi-tropical trees and foliage; its long sea-wall, the pride of St. Augustine; its grand old fort "San Marco," standing as it has stood for three hundred years, with its moat, its mossy walls, and its outlook towers.

Verily it is a temptation to make the trip, and for a few hours at least, while the steamer waits, imagine yourself a Spaniard of the sixteenth century.

Close connections are made at Savannah with the new and elegant steamships of the New York and Savannah Line, both to and from New York, and by railroad with all parts of the country.

For further particulars as to routes, &c., consult the *Itinerary* at the end of this pamphlet.

The trip from Savannah to St. Augustine is made in about twelve hours, and from St. Augustine to Nassau in about thirty hours, following the coast line from Savannah River nearly south to St. Augustine and Cape Florida, then crossing the Gulf Stream, occupying about five hours, and thence, with Bahama Banks on the right, and the Islands of Grand Bahama and Abaco on the left hand, a pleasant run of a few hours brings the ship into the harbor of Nassau.

For the accommodation of visitors to the Island, arrangements have been made by which telegraphic communications may be forwarded to all parts of the country on the arrival of the steamer in St. Augustine or Savannah, and answers received will be brought over by the steamer on her return trip, thus bringing sojourners on the Island almost within telegraphic communication with their own homes.

A reference to the subjoined table, compiled by Surgeon General BAGOT, R. A., will show the mean temperature at Nassau, during the winter months, for *ten years*:

THERMOMETER AT 9 A. M.

November	74°	February	71°
December	73°	March	72°
January	70°	April	75°

General JAMES WATSON WEBB, in writing of Nassau in 1870, says:

"Madeira is the great *Sanitarium* of Europe, and until lately was considered to be without a rival throughout the world. Recently, however, Nassau has not only been proved to be superior to all other localities as a *Sanitarium* in the New World, but superior also to Madeira itself. From the first November to the first June, *there is not, in all probability, any spot on the face of the earth* so desirable for persons suffering from pulmonary complaints.

"Such are the facts of the case in regard to the climate of Nassau; and extraordinary as they are, when compared with other places on the globe noted for their salubrity, there are great natural causes, visible and apparent to all, why it should be found free from frost, although in Lat. 25° 05' North; and at the same time boasts all the benefits of the Tropics, with a warm summer climate, equable as man can desire. Those causes consist in the very peculiar and remarkable position of the Island. Look at the map, and you will at once perceive that on the *South* it is bounded by the South Atlantic, and the *warm* waters which constitute that mighty arm of the ocean—the

Gulf Stream. On the *West*, that great wonder of the ocean separates it from the continent of America, and again protects Nassau on the North, and modifies all the cold winds of the continent into gentle zephyrs by the time they reach New Providence; and on the *East* we are open to the broad Atlantic, which in Lat. 25° never emits any amount of cold which the invalid may not safely inhale."

A writer from Nassau to the *Albany Evening Journal*, under the *nom-de-plume* of "V. Q.," also says:

"We luxuriated in a soft balmy atmosphere of seventy-four degrees, and could but feel that there was health in every breath.

"All the ordinary tropical fruits abound in great perfection, and are had for little more than the gathering. The senses are rapt by the novelty of the surroundings, the suddenness and entirety of the change. In a less distance from New York than Chicago, the transformation is perfect; not a shrub or tree is seen which surrounds alike both those places; not any other dress than a light and summer toilet."

Governor RAWSON, in his report upon the Bahamas, says:

"The reputation of New Providence for salubrity and the charms of its climate has been long established, and has annually attracted to Nassau numbers of invalids from the United States and British North American Provinces."

Governor ROBINSON, in his report to the British Government on the Colonial Section, at the Vienna Exhibition, 1873, says of the Bahamas:

"Lying as they do in one of the most serene, genial, and delightful climates of the world, and yielding by cultivation most of the vegetable productions of the temperate as well as the torrid zone, it might seem strange that the Bahamas have not hitherto become generally settled. Nassau, however, has become, for many years past, a winter resort for those seeking to escape from the rigors of a Northern to a milder Southern clime. Many eminent American Physicians strongly recommend such of their patients as may be suffering from or threatened with pulmonary disease to proceed to Nassau for the winter, in consequence of the mildness and equability of the temperature. With a view to attract such a class of visitors, a very commodious hotel, built on the American plan, was erected at the expense of the Government. The lessees of the hotel, Americans, are bound to conduct it like a first-class New York hotel. Ample and good accommodation has therefore been provided. Besides there are several excellent boarding-houses.

Frost is positively unknown, and a glance at the following carefully prepared tables will demonstrate the equable character of the climate:

TIME.	THERMOMETER.					
	Average.	Highest.	Lowest.	Greatest change in 24 hours.	Number Records above 78°	Number Records below 68°
NOVEMBER:						
6 A. M..	73¾	77½	71	4	0	0
12 M....	77½	81	73	7	7	0
6 P. M..	76¼	79	72	7	0	0
12 " ..	75	77	72	4	0	0
DECEMBER:						
6 A. M..	72¾	75	66	6	0	1
12 M....	75	81	68	11	0	0
6 P. M..	73¾	77	67	8	0	1
12 " ..	74	78	68	8	0	0
JANUARY:						
6 A. M..	70½	76	64	9	0	8
12 M....	72	78	63	9	0	5
12 P. M..	70	78	64	9	0	9
6 " ..	70	77	64	12	0	8
FEBRUARY:						
6 A. M..	70	76	64	6	0	7
12 M....	72	78	67	8	0	5
6 " ..	71½	78	64	8	0	5
12 P. M..	71	76	64	9	0	6
MARCH:						
6 A. M..	73	78	64	9	0	4
12 M....	76	82	66	8	9	1
6 P. M..	75¼	80	66	8	6	1
12 " ..	73½	78	65	8	0	2
APRIL:						
6 A. M..	77	80	74	4	5	0
12 M....	79	82	75	4	24	0
6 P. M..	78½	82	73	7	19	0
12 " ..	77	80	73	5	4	0
MAY 1 TO 11.						
6 A. M..	75	82	72	3	2	0
12 M...	76	82	73	5	1	0
6 " ..	75	80	73	5	1	0
12 P. M..	74	80	73	5	1	0

Surgeon-Major Bagot, R. A., gives the following comparative table of temperatures:

	Winter.	Spring.	Summer.	Autumn.
Funchal	63°50'	64°46'	71°60'	70°88'
Halifax, N. S.	21	31 67	71	46 67
New York	30 12	52 06	70 93	53 20
Nassau	70 67	77 67	86	80 33
Nice	46 33	55 02	71 83	61 52
Algiers	52 32	60 46	74 41	67 87
Cairo	58 52	73 58	85 10	71 48
*Jacksonville, Fla.	55 02	63 88	81 93	62 54

*From report of Dr. A. S. Baldwin, Jacksonville, Fla.

Staff Assistant-Surgeon Segrave, R. A., in charge of the meteorological observations at Nassau, gives the mean degree of humidity as follows:

January	76°	July	66°2'
February	82	August	72
March	73 8'	September	72
April	64 7	October	81 3
May	71	November	77 7
June	61	December	82
Average	73°3'		

From these observations, two important deductions will be made: First, that the average temperature, from November to May inclusive, is exactly that at which out-door and in-door life are best combined—always above that at which artificial heat becomes necessary; and always below that at which exercise becomes exhausting. Second, that the variation between extreme limits of temperature is comparatively small, and that these limits are those within which any variation is of the least possible importance to the health or comfort of the individual. Moreover, the mean barometrical standard indicates a light or rarified atmosphere, and the average rain-fall for a series of years, during the season of resort, demonstrates one of unusual dryness. If, then, the climate desideratum for invalids suffering from pulmonary diseases is, as indicated by medical authorities, "a dry, rarified atmosphere at equable temperature," the Climate of Nassau fulfills the indication not only in an unequaled, but also in a marvelously perfect degree. How perfect, will become evident by comparing it with Madeira, South of France, or Southern United States of the Atlantic coast.

The above tables, representing as they do the average temperature of morning, noon, evening, and midnight, with highest and lowest markings of the thermometer during each month, and the greatest change in any one period of twenty-four hours, furnish valuable data from which to derive an idea of the temperature of these islands. To make the tables even more complete, there is added the number of times each month the mercury rose above 78 degrees or fell below 68 degrees. We doubt not that these thermometric results will be of interest to the majority of our readers; they certainly will be to those having patients for whom they are seeking a milder climate.

To sum up the advantages offered by Nassau: We find a place where the invalid (after a short sea voyage) may enjoy the finest and most equable climate in the world, during the winter months, absolutely free from all danger of epidemic disease, hurricanes, earthquakes and other dangers and disadvantages usually incident to tropical countries, good society, fine educational and religious privileges, the use of a choice library, medical talent of the highest order, recreations of varied and healthful character.

By special permission, reference is made to the following named gentlemen:

Dr. ALONZO CLARK, New York,
Dr. WILLARD PARKER, "
Dr. JOHN T. METCALF, "
Dr. WILLIAM A. HAMMOND, "
Dr. T. GAYLORD THOMAS, "
Dr. WILLIAM KIRKWOOD, Florence, Italy.
Dr. W. F. HUTCHINSON, Providence, R. I.
Dr. EDWARD P. FOWLER, New York.
Dr. JAMES R. WOOD, "
Dr. FORDYCE BARKER, "
Dr. ERASTUS E. MARCY, "
Dr. JOHN J. CRANE, "
Dr. AUSTIN FLINT, "
Dr. F. A. CASTLE, "
Dr. JAMES P. WHITE, Buffalo, N. Y.

The Royal Victoria Hotel opens annually the first of November, and closes the fifteenth of May. Neither pains nor expense will be spared to give entire satisfaction to those who either from necessity or fancy may choose to spend a winter in the tropics. The table will be provided with the very best imported and native supplies, and the attendance will be prompt and willing.

Terms at the hotel three dollars per day, U. S. currency. Visitors will find letters of credit, certificates of deposit, U. S. gold notes or coin the more convenient form of funds. Letters of credit or drafts on Nassau can be procured of the agents of the steamship line at par.

A schedule is issued monthly, giving the exact date of sailing of steamers, from New York, Savannah, and St. Augustine; also, the rates of passage from different points, including excursion tickets. This may be had on application to MURRAY, FERRIS & Co., 62 South Street, New York, the agents of the *New York, Nassau and West India Mail Steamship Line*, and the *Savannah, Nassau and Havana Mail Steamship Line*, who will mail guide-books and furnish all information upon application.

Attention is particularly called to the appendix on the following pages, containing an article on Nassau, which appeared in *Scribner's Monthly* for November, 1877, from the pen of Mr. Frank R. Stockton, illustrated by Thomas Moran, L. Hopkins, Sol. Eytinge, Jr., and others, under the title of "An Isle of June;" "Nassau as a Resort for Nerve Invalids," by Wm. F. Hutchinson, A. M., M. D., of Providence, R. I., late of the U. S. Naval Service; extracts from editorials from the *Medical Record* and *New Remedies*; letters from Hon. C. L. MacArthur to the *Troy Budget;* Epes Sargent; Rev. Nelson Millard to the *New York Evangelist;* Dr. Wm. Kirkwood, of Florence, Italy, &c., &c.

APPENDIX.

AN EXTRACT FROM

"NASSAU AS A RESORT FOR NERVE INVALIDS."

By WILLIAM F. HUTCHINSON, A.M., M.D.,
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Specialists in diseases of the nervous system have long been seeking for some locality whither they may direct the steps of those fortunate ones amongst their patients whose means will allow them to follow their physicians' advice, and give a few months' rest to the active brain and overworked mind.

It is certain that diseases of this class are more widely spread than ever before in this country, and equally certain that all forms of medication utterly fail after the most alarming symptoms—paralysis or delirium—make their appearance.

Improved forms of diagnosis have, however, enabled the expert to foresee such terminations to apparently trifling groups of signs—and seeing, to arrest progress by promptly removing the cause. In a vast majority, this cause resides in an over-strain; and if the organs have not already given way under it, relaxation is the cure. But what form must it take?

Rest—*rest*—REST. Rest of body and mind—rest of brain and muscle. Rest undisturbed by business or politics—by family cares or rumors of wars—rest seconded and intensified by sensuous quiet, by lovely scenery, by June-like temperature, and by all that is as nearly as possible the exact antipode of the patient's usual surroundings.

It has been my custom, for several years, to select from my list a half dozen who most need change, and leaving this inhospitable climate about the first of March, cruise leisurely down towards the spring that comes so tardily hitherward, looking for some place which should combine the necessary requisites for busy merchant, or eager, anxious literary man. It must have invariable sunshine, equable temperature, accessibility, comfortable and reasonable lodgings, sufficient occupation free from excitement of any kind, and small means of communication with home.

It would almost seem Utopian to look for all these requisites in one spot; but perseverance does wonders, and last spring, as we sailed out of the harbor of Nassau, it was with many a regret that we could not carry its charming environment with us. My patients were well. Anxiously bent brows, aching heads and limbs halting speech and unstable memory, had all disappeared; they had been swept into the past by the balmy trade wind that had woven its spell around us on the lovely island. "Mens sano in corpore sano" was once more the condition of my invalids, and thankfully did they sound the praises of the land which had given them a new lease of existence.

Since that visit, I have been satisfied that, as a resort for patients of this class, none can approach in needful qualifications, Nassau.

It is sufficiently inaccessible to protect them from the daily mail nuisance or the sharper sting of the telegraph, while but twenty-four hours distant from an American city. It has a fine hotel, with several excellent boarding-houses, where all may be suited as to cuisine and price. It has the loveliest walks, drives, sailing and fishing grounds that exist. It has a temperature so unvarying that during our whole stay the utmost change was three degrees Fahrenheit in a day, the maximum for three weeks being 71°, and the minimum 68°.

It has eternal winter sunshine, and, finally, its excitement is of the mild innocuous kind that grows wild over a new shell or flower, or the advent of Sunday aud church. I cannot recommend in too strong language Nassau for invalids whose tired, worn-out nervous system demands rest as the primary element of cure, and shall look no further for a haven for clients of this class who come to me for advice.

Its medical men are courteous, well-trained and skillful, in whose hands no practitioner need fear to leave his cases. They hold both English and American diplomas, and are entirely trustworthy.

Dr. KIRKWOOD writes as follows:

NEW YORK, July 22d, 1876.— * * * I have had a long experience both as a physician and an invalid; in the latter character, fortunately, only from the first year of my residence; but in the first capacity nearly 28 years, namely, from 1844 to 1872; and the result of this experience has induced me to believe that the climate of Nassau, during the winter months, is superior to any winter resorts for pulmonary invalids which I have visited as yet, and that compete with principal resorts in Italy and the South of France, in which I have spent the last four years.

Very truly yours,

W. KIRKWOOD, M. D., Florence, Italy.

SCRIBNER'S MONTHLY.

VOL. XV. NOVEMBER, 1877. NO. 1.

AN ISLE OF JUNE.

NASSAU HARBOR, FROM HOG ISLAND.

IT was on a cold, rainy morning in February that we left Savannah on the steamer for Nassau. We steamed through the yellow waters of the Savannah River and over the bar at its mouth, and soon were fairly out at sea, where the long, even swells took our vessel gently in their arms and rolled her slowly from side to side as if they were

trying to put her to sleep. Those of the passengers who remained on deck wore overcoats or other wraps, and did not find it very convenient to do much promenading. However, the light of hope was burning in every eye, and by sunrise next morning we found ourselves off St. Augustine, Florida, with the rolling swell changed to short, chopping waves, which suited some persons better and other persons not so well.

stronger. It seemed as if we had suddenly sailed into early June, or the latter part of May. The sea was smooth, the air was mild, the skies were lovely. Everybody was on deck.

Off came our overcoats. It was no longer winter!

These ever-summer seas were lovely. Out of the waves rose the flying-fish, skimming in flocks through the air, and dropping down

SAVANNAH
Track of Steamers
ST. AUGUSTINE
FLORIDA
Coral Reefs
Mangrove Keys
About here you take off your overcoat if you have not already done so
FOR JUPITER
Here you turn to the left and cross the Gulf Stream
Headed for Nautiluses, also Porpoises.
At this point you see a cocoa nut tree on the lip end of the Great Bahama
BAHAMA ISLANDS
Great Bahama
Flying fish abundant here
NASSAU
New Providence Island
ANDROS ISLAND
Flamingoes here
San Salvador
see back of five dollar bill
Watlings Island
This is said to be the first land discovered by Columbus
don't believe it
KEY WEST
Gulf Stream runs up here
HAVANA
CUBA

MEMORANDUM MAP OF THE ROUTE TO THE BAHAMAS.

We sailed over the bar and anchored in front of the town. The disposition to get off for an hour or two was very strong, but our captain gave us no time for landing. He took on the passengers who stood clustered on the wharf, hoisted anchor and was over the bar again before the tide fell.

We kept on down the Florida coast until the next morning, when we turned eastward into the Gulf Stream. And now the hope on every countenance grew brighter and again just as we were beginning to believe they were birds; the porpoises leaped and darted by the vessel's side, and every now and then we passed a nautilus, cruising along in his six-inch shell, with his transparent sail wide-spread and sparkling in the sun.

Early in the afternoon of this delightful day we descried, far in the distance, a speck on the horizon, and were told that this was land—a part of the Great Bahama Island; and as we drew nearer and nearer, we saw

a little tuft in the air and a little thread beneath it, connecting it with the land; and the tuft and the thread were a cocoa-nut tree!

We were journeying to find a pleasant winter climate,—one that could be depended upon. We knew of very commendable semi-tropical resorts—Florida for instance; but among the northern visitors to Florida that year had been frost and ice. We could get all we needed of such things at home, and so we had agreed to postpone, until later in the season, our trip to the state of flowers and alligators, and in our search for the happy land we longed for, to do as Columbus did, and begin at the beginning. First to the Bahamas came he, and thither would we go too. These islands might be called the first chapter of America; we would turn back and see how our continent opened to the eyes of the venturesome Genoese.

And here we were. True, that distant island was not San Salvador, but it was all in the family.

Through the whole afternoon we cruised down the shores of the Great Bahama, and then left it and went southward toward New Providence. Early in the morning, from my open port, I heard voices coming from the water, and the thumping of oars. I hastily looked out, and there was Nassau. We were almost at the wharf. A long boat, full of negroes, was carrying a line to the shore.

I hurried on deck and looking over the rail saw to my astonishment that we were floating in water not more than a foot deep! This great ship, with her engines, her cargo, her crew and passengers, was slowly moving along

THE FIRST CHAPTER OF AMERICA.

in water not up to your knees! The bottom was clearly visible—every stone on it could be seen as you see stones at the bottom of a little brook. I could not understand it.

"How deep is this water?" I asked of a sailor.

"About three fathom," he answered.

I had heard, but had not remembered, that the waters around Nassau, especially when you looked down upon them from a height, were almost transparent, but the explanation did not make the sight any less wonderful. As to the color of the water, I had heard nothing about that. This water was of an apple-green or pea-green tint,—as charming as the first foliage of spring.

The town—a very white town—stretched before us for a mile or two along its water-front, and seemed to be a busy place, for

THE ROYAL VICTORIA HOTEL, NASSAU.

there were many vessels, large and small (principally the latter), moored at the piers; there were store-houses on the street by the water; there was a crowd of people on the wharf; there were one-horse barouches, driven by negroes wearing red vests and dreadfully battered high silk hats, and altogether the scene was lively and promising.

VIEW DOWN GEORGE STREET, NASSAU.—LOOKING FROM GOVERNMENT HOUSE.
[CATHEDRAL ON THE RIGHT, VENDUE HOUSE AT END OF STREET, HOG ISLAND IN THE DISTANCE.]

The town was larger than I had expected to see it, but it ought to be a good-sized place, for nearly all of the people of the island of New Providence live there, and they number some eleven or twelve thousand. Columbus named this island Fernandina, which was a good name,—but the poor man never had much luck in christening the lands he discovered.

The town is certainly very well placed—all the passengers agreed to that. It lies on the northern edge of Ferna—— of New Providence, and in front of it, less than a mile away, stretches a long, narrow piece of land called Hog Island. In spite of its name this island is a very ornamental and useful one, for it acts as a breakwater, and in a picturesque way, helps to inclose an admirable harbor for Nassau.

There is no lack of islands and islets in what might be called the Bahamian Archipelago, which stretches some six hundred miles from San Domingo nearly to Florida. The collection comprises, according to official count, twenty-nine islands, six hundred and sixty-one cays, and two thousand three hundred and eighty-seven rocks,—assorted sizes.

New Providence is the most important member of this collection, but like many other most important things, it is by no means the biggest, being only twenty-one miles long and seven broad, while the Great Bahama, Abaco, Eleuthera, Andros, and some of the other islands, are very many times larger, some of them being a hundred

miles long. But New Providence has the brains, the other islands have merely size.

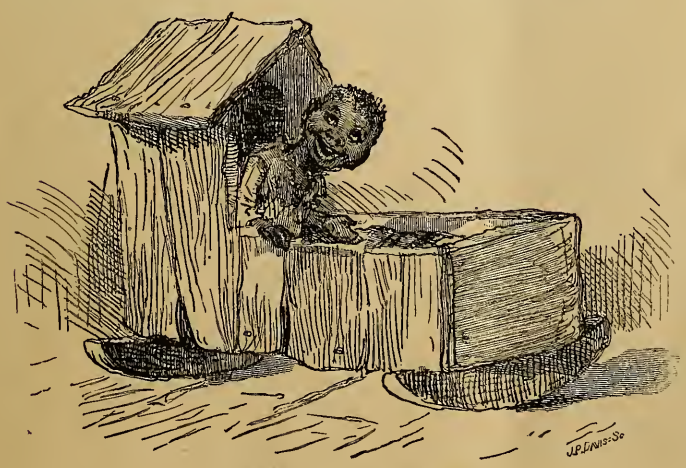
The health-officer came on board, and we were soon free to go ashore. We found that, like ourselves, nearly all our fellow-passengers were going to the Royal Victoria Hotel. We speedily secured one of the one-horse barouches; the red-vested driver pulled his silk hat a little tighter on his head, cracked his whip and away we went. As we rode through the town we noticed that the streets were very hard and smooth, and white and narrow, and that there was a great preponderance of wall in every direction; and in about two minutes we noticed that we were at the hotel.

The hotel made quite an impression upon us, even before we entered it. It stands high, spreads wide, and looks large, and cool, and solid. It is a hotel of which Her Majesty need not be ashamed. In front of the main door-way, which is level with the ground, is an inclosed and covered court. In the sides of this are arched gate-ways through which the carriage-road passes, and in the front wall are four or five door-ways. The space—and there is a good deal of it—between the carriage-way and the house is paved and is generally pretty well covered with arm-chairs, for this court, as we soon found, is the favorite resort of the guests. The sun can get no entrance here, while through the numerous door-ways cut in the massive walls the breezes come from nearly every direction. The interior of the house is also arranged with a view to coolness and shade. There is not a fire-place or a chimney in the whole structure. The cooking is done in a separate building, and in Nassau the people do not need fires for warmth. We found, in fact, that Nassau is almost a town without chimneys. In looking over the place, from some of the high piazzas of the Royal Victoria, scarcely a chimney could be seen on a

A LITTLE BOY IN FULL DRESS.

dwelling-house, and those on the little outside kitchens were so covered up by foliage that they were not easily perceived.

We went to breakfast with hopeful hearts. It was a good breakfast. In addition to the fare which one would expect at a first-class and well-kept hotel, we had fresh fruit, radishes, lettuce, sliced tomatoes, and other little matters of the kind to which we were not accustomed in winter-time. The very first thing I did after breakfast was to go and buy a straw hat. I always wear a straw hat in sliced tomato time. I saw a little of the town while I was buying my hat, but I did not look at it much, for I did not wish to take an unfair advantage of my wife; and, as soon as possible, we started out together to see the town.



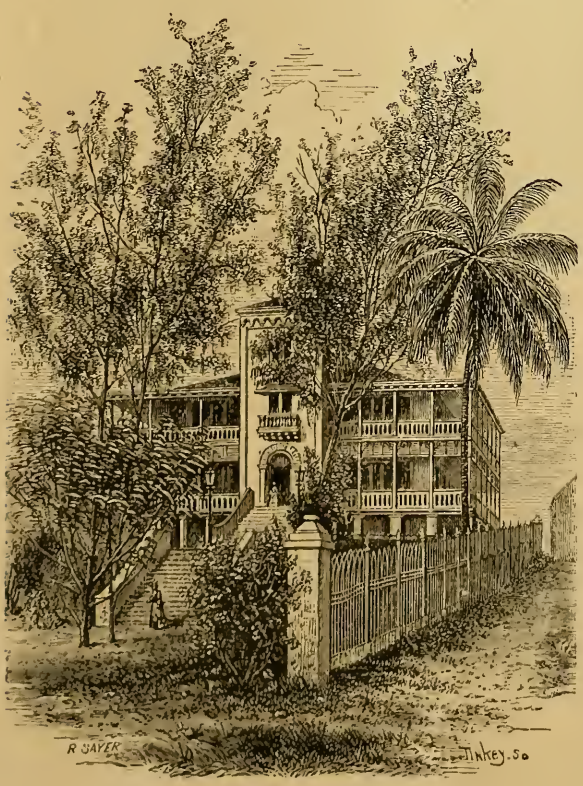
"GIVE US A SMALL COPPER, BOSS."

It was certainly a novel experience to walk through the streets of Nassau. At first it seemed to us as if the

whole place—streets, houses and walls—had been cut out of one solid block of the whitest lime-stone, for the material in all appeared to be the same. There are very few side-walks, and these are generally not so good to walk on as the middle of the street. The houses are wide and low, and generally have piazzas around them on every story. Nearly every house has a garden,—sometimes quite a large one,—surrounded, not by a fence, but by a high stone-wall. It is these walls, over which you see the broad leaves of bananas, or the beautiful tops of cocoa-nut-trees, with other rich and unfamiliar foliage, which, more than anything else, give the town its southern, and, to us, its entirely foreign, appearance. The gardens, and all the spaces about the houses, are crowded with trees, bushes and flowers. Roses were in bloom everywhere, and oleanders, twenty feet high, waved their pink blossoms over the street.

We walked down Parliament street, which leads from the high ground on which the hotel stands to Bay street, which is the principal thoroughfare and business avenue of the town. This street runs along the water-front, and on one side for some distance there is a succession of shops and business places of various kinds. On the water side of the street are the wharfs, the market, the Vendue House, the barracks, and quite a number of stores and counting-houses. And all these, taken in the aggregate, give Bay street quite a busy appearance.

And here we began to understand what is meant by the statement that there are negroes in Nassau. If I should say that the whole surface of the ground as far as the eye could reach, up or down the street, was covered with darkeys of every possible age, sex, size and condition in life, I should say what is not exactly true. It is difficult, however, to erase that impression from the mind,—for there they were strolling along the sidewalks (this street boasts those conveniences), standing in groups, laughing, talking, arguing, sitting on stones and door-steps, and by gate-ways, selling bananas, short pieces of sugar-cane, roots, and nuts; running hither and thither, flirting, begging, loafing, doing anything but working. Down by the market they swarmed like bees, some selling, some looking on, a few buying, and all jabbering away right and left.



A NASSAU MANSION.

When we next took a walk, we rambled to the south of the town,—to the suburbs, where these darkeys live. We went down a long street, or lane, bordered on each side by little gardens, in which stood thatched cottages and small low houses of various kinds, all in the most picturesque state of dilapidation, and surrounded, covered, embraced, sheltered and fondled by every kind of bush, tree and vine that will grow without the help of man; and, as nearly all the vegetation in Nassau will do that, bananas, cocoa-nuts, oranges and tamarinds clustered around these contented-looking little huts in masses of every shade of green, picked out with the golden hues of oranges, and the colors of every blossom that grows.

Looking down the lane, the view was lovely. The tall cocoa-nuts, with their tufts of long, magnificent leaves, waved on each side, until in the distance they seemed to touch across the white street that ran down through the

sea of foliage which spread away on either side, broken only by the thatched and pointed roofs that rose here and there like islands out of the green. The red shawls of the distant negro women gave the brilliant points of color, while the strong sunlight gave warmth to a scene that was more than semi-tropical. In the street, in the gardens, on the door-steps lounged and lay the happy people who had if I gave half of what was asked, I conferred a measureless content upon the seller. Subsequently I learned that about one-eighth of one per cent. of the sum asked was enough for an opening offer, when trading with the negroes of Nassau. The youngsters who had no wares to sell were nothing loth to ask for donations, and "Give us a small copper, boss," was the refrain of most of the infantile prattle that we heard.

NASSAU HARBOR.

all this for nothing. They are true lotus-eaters, these negroes, but they need not sail away to distant isles to eat and dream. Their lotos grows on every cocoa-nut-tree, and on every banana; it oozes out with the juice of their sugar-cane, and they bake it in their yams.

From out of the huts and gardens the brown, black and yellow little girls came with roses and bunches of orange-blossoms. We first bought of one and then of another, until, if we had not suddenly stopped, we should have ruined ourselves. The prices they asked were but little more than the flowers would have cost in the hot-house of a New York florist, but I soon found that

If colored people feel lazy in the Bahamas, it is not to be wondered at. Everything feels lazy, even the mercury in the thermometers. It is exceedingly difficult to get it to move. While we were there, it was always at, or about, seventy-four degrees, once rising to eighty degrees, but soon subsiding again to the old spot. For myself, I like mercury that is content to dwell at seventy-four degrees. There is no better spot on the whole surface of the thermometer. And why should people toil and sweat in this happy island? The trees and vines and vegetables do not ask it of them. Things grow in Nassau for the love of growing; they do not have to be coaxed. In the

negro suburbs we saw very little cultivation. The trees and plants did not even seem to care about soil to any great extent. We saw large trees growing, apparently, right out of the stones and rocks. Of course, there was some earth in the crevices, but there was precious little of it anywhere. The whole island is of coral origin, and is now like a great lime-stone rock, covered with a very thin layer of rich soil. But this thin layer suffices for the luxuriant vegetation of the Bahamas, although I think that one of the long carrots of our country would find it very difficult to grow at Nassau, unless it were furnished with a rock-drill at the extremity of its root.

There is a fine, large jail here, a very cool and well-arranged edifice. The inmates are almost exclusively negroes. There was one white man there when I saw the place, but he was a sailor from a foreign ship in port, who did not know, perhaps, that it was not a custom of the country for white folks to get themselves put in prison. When a negro enters this jail,—and he generally goes in for petty larceny or a similar crime,—his habits undergo a complete revolution. He has to work hard. Dressed in white shirt, trowsers and cap (for here white is the color that does not show dirt), with bare feet and a long chain running from each ankle to a belt at his waist, he marches in military order with a company of his fellows to sweep the streets, mend the pavements and work in the public grounds. He also labors in the jail and learns to despise, from the bottom of his soul, the temporary, but deplorable, weakness of Adam. But it must not be supposed that these criminals are the only negroes who are industrious. There are colored people in Nassau who have found out that it pays to work,—moderately,—and so have arrived at positions of ease and comparative independence. The policemen here, with one or two exceptions, are black men. They wear handsome blue uniforms, and walk slower and put on greater airs of dignity and authority than any other body of police officers that I have ever met.

The government of the Bahamas appears to be highly satisfactory to all parties concerned. As a colony of Great Britain, the islands have a colonial governor, who is assisted in his governmental duties by Her Majesty's executive council and Her Majesty's legislative council. The people at large have also a voice in the matter through the representatives they send to the House of Assembly, a body of about thirty members.

The currency in use is a curious mixture of American and English money, with occasional additions of the coins of other climes. Our greenbacks are readily received at par, and our silver half and quarter dollars at a slight discount, but the smaller money in use with us will not pass current. The small change is principally English coin,—eight, six, four and three-penny pieces, a small silver coin called a "check," worth a penny and a half, and copper pennies and halfpence. Among the latter we met with a great many friends of other days in the shape of our old-fashioned copper cents. One or two of the guests at the hotel, who were coin collectors, found prizes among the coppers. The negroes gave, in change, not only rare United States cents, passing for halfpence, but copper coins of the same general size, from various parts of the world. It quite recalled the feelings of my youth to get change for a quarter, and go about with a lot of heavy coppers jingling in my pocket.

But there is no difficulty at all in getting rid of this weighty change. An opportunity is afforded twice a day at the main entrance of the hotel, where, after breakfast and after dinner, will be found on every week-day a regular fair or market. The negroes come with the greatest variety of commodities for sale, and range themselves around the inside of the inclosure, some sitting down by the walls with their baskets before them, others standing about with their wares in their hands, while others, more enterprising, circulate among the ladies and gentlemen, who are taking their after-meal rest in the numerous arm-chairs on each side of the door. It would be impossible to name everything which may be bought in this market, for new and unique commodities are continually turning up. Flowers and fruit of every kind that grows here, sponges, shells of almost every imaginable variety, canes and hats of native manufacture, star-fish, berries, conchs, sugar-cane, sea-beans of all kinds and colors, and all sorts of ornaments made of tortoise-shell and other shells. One day a boy brought a little dog; a girl had a live bird, which she would either sell or liberate on the payment of a small sum by any humane person. A big black man brought a tarantula spider in a bottle, and you can always get centipedes if you want them. Many things—sponges, for instance—can be bought at very low prices by people who are willing to bargain a little.

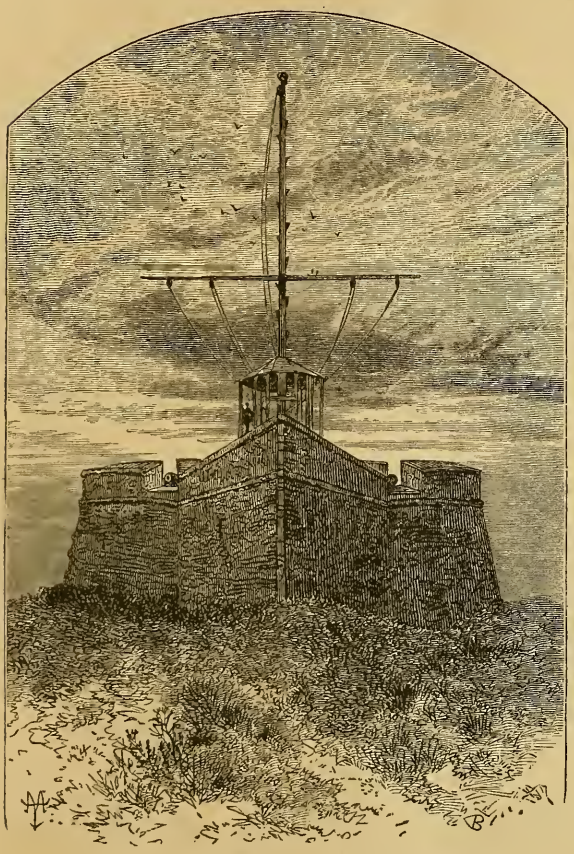
We bought and tasted of almost every kind of native fruit; some of it was very curious to look at, and some was very good to eat. The sappadillo is a small round fruit, the color of a potato on the outside, and as sweet as sugared honey inside. The grape-fruit has the flavor and taste of an orange, and is a rich and juicy fruit for a hot day, but the skin and pulp must be avoided. Guavas are fragrant and luscious. Jamaica apples, which are masses of sweet custard, covered with a thin skin, are almost too rich for a novice in West Indian fruits. Mangoes are said to be delicious, but they ripen later in the season. The sour-sop is a great green fruit, like a bloated cucumber, and has been aptly compared, in regard to taste, to cotton soaked in vinegar. The lemons are enormous and very fine, and there are limes, and star-apples, and tamarinds, and other things of the kind which I cannot remember. But the fruits we liked best were those to which we had been accustomed, — oranges, pine-apples and bananas. We had not, however, been accustomed to pine-apples naturally ripened. Those sent from Nassau to the United States are shipped in a partially green state, and ripen themselves as well as circumstances allow. But a pine-apple ripened in its native soil, and under its native sun, was an unknown joy to us. It was not the pine-apple season, but in this happy climate season does not make much difference to fruits, and there were generally some pine-apples to be had.

Not only venders of merchandise but every one who has any means of making money out of the visitors is to be found at this hotel-door market,—men with horses and carriages to hire; captains of sail-boats; humbler folk who will take you rowing, or commanders of fishing-smacks anxious to take a fishing party "outside." As soon as possible I engaged a man to take me fishing. I have always delighted in the sport, and here I should certainly have some new experiences. We started after breakfast, myself and the fisherman, in a tight little, round little, dirty little sloop, with a "well" in it to keep captured fish alive, and decked over fore and aft. The boat was strong and safe, if not very pretty, and away we went over the bar and out to sea. We anchored off Hog Island, some distance from land, and my good man lowered his sail and got out his lines and bait. The latter was conch-meat. He took up a conch, several of which he had bought in the market before we started, and broke the shell to pieces with a small iron bar. Then he pulled out the inmate, which resembles an immense clam with a beak and a tail, and examined it for pearls. In these conchs, pearls of a pretty pinkish hue are occasionally, but not often, found by fortunate fishermen and divers. One of them sold for four hundred dollars in London, I was informed. Small

SELLING A TARANTULA.

ones, worth from ten to a hundred dollars, are occasionally seen in the Nassau shops. Finding no pearl, my fisherman laid his conch on the deck and hammered it with a wooden beater until it was soft enough to cut up for the hooks. All this made a good

deal of noise, which I was afraid would frighten away the fish, but when the hooks were baited and we were ready to commence operations, the man took an old and empty conch-shell, and holding it over the water



FORT FINCASTLE.

hammered it into bits, making as much noise as possible in so doing. This, he said,—and he seemed to know all about it,—was to attract the fish. These proceedings were very different from what I had been accustomed to in my fishing excursions at home, when everybody kept as quiet as possible, but my fisherman's next move astonished me still more. He coolly remarked that he would look and see if there were any fish in the water about our boat. We were gently tossing on waves that were entirely different from the transparent water of the harbor, and apparently as opaque as any other waves. I could see a few inches below the surface perhaps, but certainly no more. But my man knew what he was talking about. From under his little deck he drew forth a "water-glass," which is a light wooden box, about twenty inches long and a foot square, open at one end, and with a pane of glass inserted at the other end, which is somewhat the larger. He held this box over the side of the boat, and sinking the glass end a few inches below the surface of the water, he put his eye to the other end and looked in. —"Yes," said he, "there's lots of fish down there. Take a look at them." I took the box and looked down into the water, which was five or six fathoms deep. I could see everything under the water as plainly as if it had all been in the upper air,—the smooth white sandy bottom; the stones lying on it, covered with sea-weed; the star-fish and such sea-creatures lying perfectly still, or gently waving themselves about, and the big fish slowly swimming around and occasionally turning up one eye to look at us. Looking through this "water-glass," it was as light as day down under the sea.

The fisherman, who was of white blood, although he was tanned as dark as a mulatto, knew all the different fish and told me their names. The "mutton-fish" and the "groupers" were the largest we saw. Some of these were two or three feet long. We now lowered our lines and began to fish. The man kept the water-glass in his hand most of the time, so as to see what would come to the lines. Sometimes I would take a look and see the fish come slowly swimming up to my bait, which rested on the bottom, look at it, and perhaps take a little nibble, and then disdainfully swim away. They did not seem to be very hungry. Pretty soon the fisherman caught a "hind,"—a fish about a foot long, of a beautiful orange color with red and black spots. I soon caught one of the same kind. Then the man hauled up a "blue-fish," one of the very handsomest fishes I ever saw. It was not at all like our so-called blue-fish. This was about twenty inches long and of a beautiful polished, dark sky-blue all over—fins, head, tail and every other part. It was more like a very bright blue china-fish than anything else.

This man had a queer way of classifying fish. "There's one at your hook now, sir," he would say, and when I would ask if it was a big one he would sometimes answer, "Well, about two shillin's," or "That's a big feller; three shillin's, sure," and sometimes, "That's a little one, biting at you, about sixpence."

While we were fishing, we saw, at a short distance, some conch-divers at work. There were two of them, and neither of them wore any clothes. One of them sculled their small boat, while the other fellow stood like a bronze statue in the bow. Every now and then they would stop and look into the sea with a water-glass, and if they saw a conch, over would go the diver into eight or ten fathoms of water and bring it up. It seemed like a very lonely kind of business, to go away off on the sea in a little bit of a boat and then to leave even that, and dive down into the ocean depths, among the quiet fishes and the solemn rocks, for a three-cent conch. I asked my fisherman if there were sharks hereabouts.

"Plenty of 'em," he answered; "sometimes they come around my boat and snap at my fish as fast as I catch 'em. They soon break the lines and make me pull up and get away. Yes, there's lots of 'em, but they wont bite a nigger."

We soon became convinced that February is June in Nassau. The weather was that of early summer, and everybody was in light clothes and straw hats. In the sun it is often quite warm; in the shade you can generally rely on seventy-four degrees. We never found it too warm to go about sight-seeing, and there is a good deal to see in and about Nassau, if you choose to go and look at it. Back of the hotel, on a commanding hill, stands Fort Fincastle, a curious old stronghold. Viewed from the front, it looks very much like a side-wheel steamer built of stone. The flag-staff increases the delusion by its resemblance to a fore-mast. This fort was built long before steamboats were heard of, so that the idea that it is a petrified steamer is utterly ridiculous.

The fort is commanded and garrisoned by one man whose duty it is to signal the approach of vessels. He must have had a lively time, during our late war, when so many blockade-runners came to Nassau, and when a steamer might come rushing into the harbor with a gun-boat hot behind it—at any time of day or night.

Fort Charlotte, at the western end of the town, is a good place to go to, if you like mysterious underground passages, deep, solemn and dark chambers, cut out of the solid rock, and all sorts of uncanny and weird places, where a negro with a double-barreled lamp leads you through the darkness. In this fort, which was built by the Earl of Dunmore, nearly a hundred years ago, there is a curious deep well, with circular stairs leading to the bottom of it, and the stairs, central pillar and well are all cut out of the solid rock. We went down that dismal well, slowly and cautiously, and we found at the bottom a long passage which led to the "Governor's room." There was no governor there, for the fort is now deserted, except by a couple of negroes, who help the Fincastle man to look out for vessels, but it must have been a very good place for a governor to go to, if his subjects did not love him.

The military element is quite conspicuous in Nassau. There are large barracks at the west end of the town; a British man-of-war generally lies in the harbor, and in the cool of the evening you may almost always see, down the white vista of the narrow street, the red coat of a British soldier.

There is a nice little public square which lies on the water side of Bay street and fronts the public buildings, where are the court-houses, house of assembly, Bank, and other similar places of resort. Whenever we would go—on a pleasant morning, afternoon or evening—to this square, to sit by the stone boat-stairs, or to stand on the sea-wall and view the lovely water with its changing hues of green, its yachts, its ships, and all its busy smaller craft, and sniff with delight the cool salt breeze that blows so gayly over the narrow back of Hog Island, there would certainly come running to us two, three, or a dozen little black boys with the entreaty: "Please, boss, give us a small dive." If I happened to have any change, and wished to see some funny work in the water, I put my hand in my pocket, and instantly every little black boy jerked off his shirt. It is no trouble for the negro children to undress in Nassau. The very little ones wear only a small shirt and a straw hat. Sometimes there is not much muslin in this shirt, but they are always particular to have it come down low enough to cover the breast-bone. If I find a penny, I toss it into the water, and instantly every darkey boy, clad in nothing but his scanty trowsers, plunges in after it. Sometimes a spry little fellow catches the coin before it reaches the bot-

DARKEYS DIVING FOR PENNIES.

tom, and it is never long before some fellow comes up with the money in his mouth. Sometimes when a coin is not readily found, it is curious to look down through the clear water and see the young rascals moving their legs and arms about down at the bottom like a lot of enormous brown frogs.

There are not many places of public resort in Nassau; but there is a library which has eight sides and six thousand books, and where the pleasant young people of Nassau—and there are a great many of them—go to see one another, and to look over the volumes in the cool alcoves.

There is another place which always looks delightfully cool and shady, and which, if it is not patronized by lovers, ought to be, and this is a very long, narrow and deep ravine which was cut in the lime-stone rock, not far from the hotel, many years ago by the people who were building the town. At the upper end is a long flight of steps leading to the hill on which Fort Fincastle stands, and this is called "The Queen's Staircase." It has been long since any stone has been taken from this ravine. The stairs, which were admirably cut out of the rock, have been worn away in places by many feet, and the whole place has grown up cool and green, with all sorts of vines and shrubbery. Here we found a great many of the "life-leaf" plant,—a curious growth, from the fact that a leaf of it will live for months, pinned to your wall, and not only that, but little plants will come out of the edges of the leaf and grow just as comfortably as if they were in the ground.

It is genuine pleasure to take a ride about Nassau. Apart from the fact that there is a good deal to be seen, it is delightful to ride over roads which are so hard, so smooth, and so level that it does not seem to be any trouble whatever for a horse to pull a buggy. If it were any trouble, I don't believe the Nassau horses would do it.

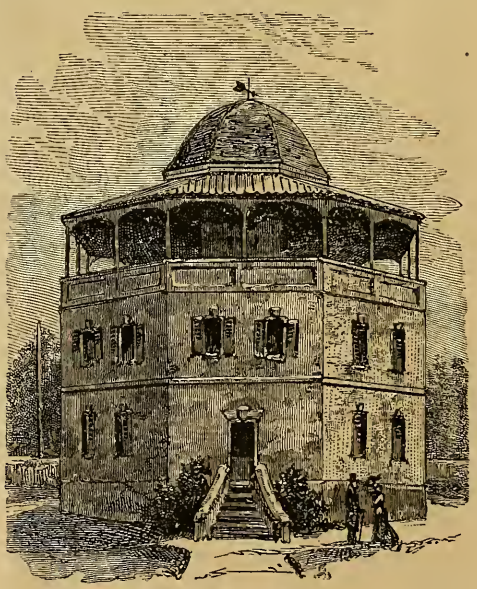
The first time we took a buggy-ride, our little mite of a horse bowled us along at a lively rate, and all was charming—fine breeze, lovely road by the water, suburbs fading into country, and all that—until we met a wagon. Then we came very near having a smash-up. For some reason or other, myself and the other driver turned right into each other. We pulled up in time to prevent damage; the other man swore,

and, jerking his horse around, drove off angrily. I could not imagine why this should have happened, until I suddenly remembered that this was, theoretically, English soil, and on English soil drivers turn to the left. It was well I thought of this and remembered it, or else on our return, when we met all the fashionable people of Nassau taking their afternoon air on the road, I should have run into the governor's carriage containing some of his family; then, in a few minutes, into the governor himself, riding rapidly on a fine horse, and after that into a number of ladies and gentlemen in buggies or one-horse barouches. Some of those in buggies were visitors from the hotel, and very difficult to avoid, having a habit of turning sometimes one way and sometimes the other.

The governor, who resides in the government house, a spacious building on the heights back of the city, is a tall, handsome Englishman, who has filled his present post for about two years to the satisfaction of everybody, I believe, excepting those enterprising people who wish to revive the old business of wrecking, for which the Bahamas used to be so famous. It is certain that there are very few islands which are so advantageously placed for this sort of business; for it is not only difficult for ships sailing in these waters to keep at a safe distance from the twenty-nine islands, the six hundred and sixty-one cays, and the two thousand three hundred and eighty-seven rocks, but there is a constant temptation to skippers to run a vessel ashore and share with the wreckers the salvage money. Then, too, it is so much more enjoyable (to wreckers) to see a vessel smash her sides on a coral reef than to see her sail stupidly into port that any one who endeavors to persuade these people that it will be better for all parties to give up the time-honored business of wrecking and devote themselves to raising oranges and pine-apples, has a hard task before him.

The principal road on the island runs along the northern shore for fifteen miles or more, and is a beautiful drive, for the most part along the edge of the harbor. This was the road we took on our first ride, and among the curious things we saw on the way was a banyan-tree. There it stood by the roadside, the regular banyan of the geographies, with its big trunk in the middle and all its little trunks coming down from the branches above. I always thought of the banyan as an East Indian tree, and did not expect to find it in the Bahamas. However, there are not many of these trees on the island, I believe, of the size and symmetry of this one.

There are a good many trees of distinction in and about Nassau. In the garden of the Rev. Mr. Swann, rector of the cathedral, there are two very fine royal African palms, and back of the public buildings is a "silk cotton-tree" which is a wonderful specimen of what Nature can do when she tries her hand at curious vegetation. This tree, which is inclosed by a fence to protect it from visitors, is nothing very remarkable, as to its upper works, so to speak, except that it bears a pod which contains a silky cotton, but it is very remarkable indeed when one considers its roots. These stand up out of the ground six or eight feet high, like great wooden walls, radiating from the trunk ten or twenty feet outward, making an arrangement somewhat resembling a small, circular church with high-backed pews. The branches extend outward for a great distance, making this the most imposing tree on the island, although

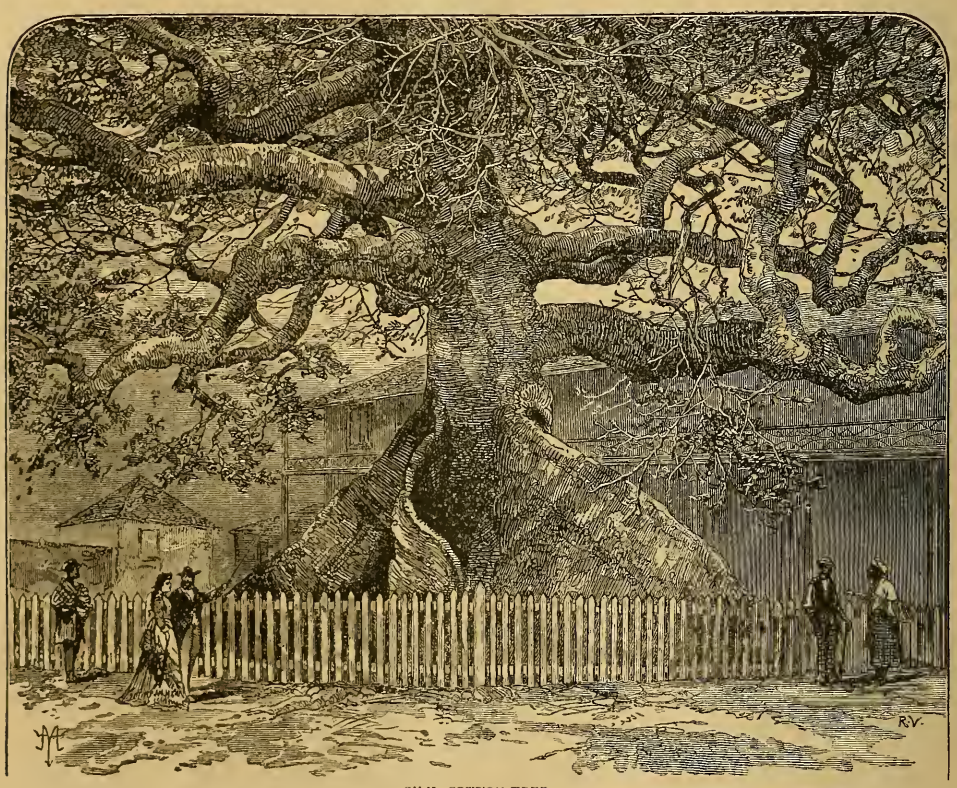


THE NASSAU LIBRARY.

silk cotton-trees are not at all uncommon. There is a very fine one on the hotel grounds.

In the interior of the island are some very pretty lakes. One of these, called, I am sorry to say, Lake Killarney, is a charming spot. We rode over there one afternoon in a one-horse barouche with a high-hatted driver. The road for some miles

leads westwardly along the beach, and gives views of some lovely bays and coves, and the cays that guard the western side of the entrance to the harbor, with the white foam dashing up against their coral sides. Then we struck back into the country and



SILK COTTON-TREE.

rode through the pines to the lake, which stretches up and down for three miles. Its water is a beautiful green, like that in the harbor, and the banks, which were cut up into picturesque little bays and peninsulas, were heavily wooded, except in one spot, where a hill running down to the water's edge had been cleared and planted with pine-apples. Going out on a rude little pier we saw a couple of negroes in a boat, returning from a duck-hunt. One of these we hired to row us to the pine-apple plantation, about a mile away, leaving our stately driver to enjoy the shade of the wild orange and lemon trees until our return.

A pine-apple plantation was something entirely new to us, and this was a very large and fine one. The plants were set out all over the field about two or three feet apart. The alternations of bright pink, purple, green and yellow in the leaves, the blossoms and the young fruit, made a very striking picture.

From the top of the hill on which the plantation lies may be had the finest view in the whole island. Before you lies Lake Killarney, its apple-green waters sparkling between its darker-hued shores, while back to the left, you see another and a larger lake shimmering in the distance, and back to the right, over the masses of foliage that stretch away for miles and miles, you can see the ocean, with the steeples of the town peeping up along its edge.

We took another long ride—the road running by the beach all the way—to what are called the Caves. Two of these are good-sized caverns near the shore, but there is another one, better worth seeing, which is nearly a mile back in the country and to which we walked, for there is no road across the fields. The outer portion or vestibule of this cave is divided into two portions at right angles with each other, and one of them is not at all unlike a small cathedral, with altar, pillars, a recessed

chancel, and long cords like bell-pulls or supports for chandeliers hanging from the ceiling. The latter were slender rootlets, or rather branches seeking to become trunks, which came down from banyan-trees on the ground above, and finding their way through crevices in the roof, took root in the floor of the cave. I took away one of them, about one-third of an inch in diameter and some fifteen feet long, and coiling it up, put it in my trunk. When my travels were over, and I had reached home, I hung the coil on a nail in the wall, and there, at least three months after it was cut, that bit of banyan, which had remained perfectly green and flexible all this time, began to sprout out rootlets down toward the carpet, and these are now six or seven feet long. This ridiculous piece of wood is growing yet, without water, without earth, and with no other culture than that of being packed in a trunk and hung up on a nail.

As to the main cavern, which opens from what I have called the vestibule caves by means of a four-foot hole, and which extends for a half mile or thereabouts toward the beach, we did not visit it. We were told by our negro guide, with many gesticulations, that this was a wonderful cave, and that if we had candles and plenty of matches it would be a good thing to go in, but that if we should accidentally be left there in the dark we would never, never come out alive!

The Hog Island beach is one of the best places that I know about Nassau. It is a short row across to the island, which is so narrow that a minute's walk takes one to the other side. Here the shore is high and rocky, rising, in most places, twenty feet above the water-level. The rocks are what are called "honey-comb rocks," and are worn and cut by the action of the waves into all sorts of twisted, curled, pointed, scooped-out, jagged forms, so that it is difficult to pick your way over them, although their general surface is nearly level. The surf comes rolling in on the rocks, and dashes and surges and leaps against them, while every now and then a wave larger and mightier than its fellows hurls itself high up on the shore, throwing its spray twenty or thirty feet into the air, like an immense glittering fountain. In many places the rocks are undermined for a considerable distance, and the sea rolls and rumbles in under your feet. Here and there are holes, three or four feet wide, down which you can look into the submarine caverns and see the water boiling and surging and hissing, while occasionally, a great wave rushing in below sends a water-spout through one of these holes, high into the air. When the wind is from the north the sight here must be magnificent. There is a reef a short distance from the beach which breaks the force of the surf somewhat, but when there is a strong wind blowing directly on shore, the waves often leap clean over Hog Island and dash into the harbor. At such times the light-house on the point would be a better place to view the scene than the rocks where we usually sat.

A PINE-APPLE IN ITS NATIVE SOIL.

Toward the eastern part of this island, there are several little coves with a smooth beach, of the very whitest sand that a beach can have. Here the surf is not high, and the bathing is excellent. A comfortable sea-bath in winter-time—a bath in water that is warm, and under skies that are blue with the blueness of our summer mornings, is a joy that does not fall to the lot of every man. But here you may bathe in the surf almost any day, and along the water-front

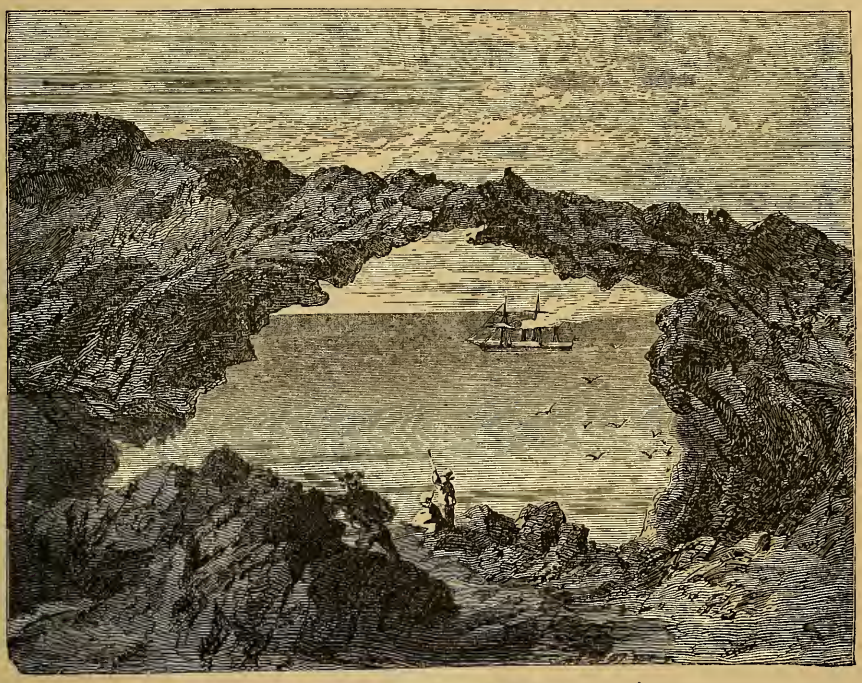
of the city there are private bath-houses, for still-water bathing, and I was told that others are to be erected for the use of the Royal Victoria, which gathers under its wings nearly all the winter visitors, though there are one or two small hotels in Nassau, one good American house of the first class, and some boarding-houses.

Once a year there are regattas at Nassau, and the occasion is made a grand holiday by all classes—the principal holiday of the year. We were lucky enough to be there on regatta day, which fell on the sixth of March, and it would have warmed the cockles of anybody's heart to see so many happy people. All the places of business were shut up, and everybody came to see the sights. The buildings fronting on the water were crowded with white folks, and the piers and wharves, and coal heaps, and piles of lumber, and barrels, and boxes, and posts were covered with negroes, as ants cover a lump of sugar. And better than sugar to ants was this jolly day to that black crowd with so few shoes and so many hats. Like the shore, the water was crowded. Craft of every kind were to be seen: sloops just in from sponging expeditions or voyages to the "out islands;" vessels at anchor; sail-boats shooting here and there; and among all, wherever there was room for a row-boat, there a row-boat was. There were races for schooners, yachts, fishing-smacks, spongers, and for row-boats of all grades; and there were swimming matches, and a "duck-hunt," in which an active fellow in a little boat was chased, for a wager, by other boats.

But it is not necessary to participate in a regatta in order to have good sailing in Nassau waters. Sail-boats and yachts are continually cruising about in the harbor, and you can always hire a craft for a sail. The best sail we had while we were there—and we have no reason to expect ever to have a better one—was an excursion to a coral reef, some five miles from town. We were a party of four, with Captain Sampson Stamp at the helm; and we took with us two young negro divers. Captain Sampson is a fine sailorly-looking darkey, and if you believe him, he can take you in his little boat and sail you to the lowlands low, or the highlands high, or to any other place on earth accessible by water. He certainly can sail a boat, and he took us away on about five Japanese fanfuls of wind, up the harbor, and past the town, and close by Potter's Cay—a narrow island lying lengthwise between Hog Island and the mainland; and past the long suburb of little cabins and cottages belonging to fishermen and spongers, and other folk with watery occupations, and among the little fleet of small craft always to be found here, and so on to the end of Hog Island, where a strip of channel, called "The Narrows," separates it from Athol Island, which here relieves Hog Island of the duty of harbor guard. We sailed through the Narrows, and in a short time were anchored on the reef, in about ten or twelve feet of water. Here the captain had told us we should see "a farm under water." And his words were true, only what we saw was more like a garden than a farm. Down at the bottom we could see—quite plain with the naked eye, but ever so much better with the water-glass—a lovely garden where there were sea-fans, purple and green, that spread themselves out from spurs of coral; sea-feathers whose beautiful purple plumes rose three or four feet high, and waved under the water as trees wave in the wind; curious coral formations, branched like trees, or rounded like balls, or made up into any fantastic form or shape that one might think of, and colored purple, green, yellow and gray, besides many-hued plants that looked like mosses, lichens, and vines growing high and low on the coral rocks. All among the nodding branches of the curious sea-plants swam the fish. Some of these were little things no longer than one's finger, colored as brilliantly as humming-birds—blue, yellow and red—and there were large blue-fish, and great striped fish, with rich bands of black and purple across their backs. Down into this under-water garden we sent the divers to pick for us what we wanted. Whenever we saw a handsome coral, or a graceful sea-feather or sea-fan that pleased our fancy, we pointed it out to one of the young fellows, and down he plunged and brought it up to us.

I have never been in the habit of going about with governors' wives to call upon queens, but on one fine Sunday afternoon the wife of a governor—not the governor of the Bahamas—did take us to call upon a queen—not she of England, but one of undoubted royal blood. We first went to see the governor. He is a native African, Sampson Hunt by name. About forty years ago a couple of slavers, containing selected cargoes of Aricans, were captured

by an English man-of-war, and the liberated negroes were brought to the Bahamas. They settled down on the outskirts of Nassau, and have since kept pretty well together, the older ones using their native language among themselves, although most of them can speak English. Sampson Hunt is their governor, and lives in a little two-roomed house with a tall flag-staff in front of it. He is an intelligent man, and showed us a portion of the Bible printed in his language, the Yuruba. Among these Africans, when they were captured, was a young queen, who still lives, enjoying her rank, but having no authority. Of course we were anxious to see her, and so, as I have said, the governor's wife accompanied us to her house. On the way I took a few lessons in African from our obliging guide, and succeeded in learning one or two phrases which I thought might be useful at court. The queen's palace was larger than an old-fashioned high-posted bedstead, but not much. In one of its two rooms we found her majesty, sitting in a rocking-chair in front of the door, while on a bench at the side of the room sat four grizzled old negro men. The queen was a tall woman, with a high turban and a red shawl wrapped majestically about her. She stood up when we entered, and gave us each her hand, making at the same time a low courtesy. She either felt her royal blood or had the lumbago, for she was very stiff indeed. She did not seem to be able to talk much in English, for the governoress spoke to her in African and her majesty made a remark or two to us in that language. Here was a chance for my phrases, so I said to the queen, "*Oqua gallæ*," which is equivalent to "good evening." What the queen said in answer I don't know, but the four grizzled old negroes on the bench jumped as if they had been struck by lightning They rolled about on the bench, their eyes sparkled, their teeth shone, they were convulsed with joy. "You been dar?" asked the grizziest. He was sorry to find that I had never visited his native land, although he probably thought it strange that I did not go, knowing the language so well. When he found it necessary to subside into English, he gave us a very interesting account of the life on the slave-ship and the stirring events of the capture.



THE GLASS WINDOWS, HARBOR ISLAND.

The reputation of Nassau as a health-resort is increasing every year. There are many reasons for this. Not only is its cli-

mate in winter warm and equable, but its air is moderately dry, its drainage excellent, and its drinking-water plentiful and wholesome. The island, according to excellent medical authority, is entirely free from malarial diseases, and it is, moreover, very easy of access. Its peculiar attractions draw to it, from our shores, a great many invalids and persons of delicate constitutions who would find it difficult to keep alive during our terrible and deceptive winter weather, but who under the blue skies of the Bahamas are happy as kings, and are out of doors all day.

When we speak of this part of the world we generally say Nassau, because it is, so to speak, the center of the whole Bahamian system. But there are many attractions on the twenty-eight other islands, on which are some fifty small towns and settlements, and about thirty thousand inhabitants.

Harbor Island, on the northern edge of the group, boasts the most pretentious provincial settlement. Dunmore Town has two thousand inhabitants, and attractions of its own, some of which its citizens believe to be quite equal to anything of the kind in the Bahamas. The "Glass Windows," a high arch or natural bridge, eighty or ninety feet above the level of the sea, is one of the lions of Harbor Island.

I have said it is easy to get to Nassau, and it is indeed a great deal easier than most persons suppose. There is a steamer every ten days from Savannah to Nassau, touching at St. Augustine, and the trip is always short, and generally smooth and pleasant. We made a good long stay in Nassau, and set sail for St. Augustine, our faces browned with Bahama sunshine, and our souls fired with the spirit of seventy-four Fährenheit.

From the Troy Budget, January 1, 1877.

OUR WINTER RESORTS.

THE GOLDEN GLOW OF THE TROPICS.

During the dreadful snow storm of Friday it was pleasant to sit by the blaze of a grate fire and dream of the golden glow and genial skies of more tropical climes,

"Where a leaf never dies in the still blooming bowers,
And the bee banquets on in a whole year of flowers;
Only simply to feel that you breathe, that you live,
Is worth the best joy that life elsewhere can give."

It is pleasant to read in midwinter of the pleasures of the South, even if we cannot at the moment enjoy them. This year there are a larger number going to warmer climes from the North than there were last winter. The last steamer from New York took fifty passengers to Nassau, in the Bahamas. This resort is growing in favor every year. The climate is much more equable and genial even than Florida. Those invalids who want an equable, genial climate will be apt to prefer Nassau, where there is rarely a greater change than two or three degrees in any day. Floating on the crystal waters of the Nassau Bay, one may well enjoy the experiences recorded by T. Buchanan Read:

"I heed not if
My rippling skiff
Float swift or slow from cliff to cliff;—
With dreamful eyes
My spirit lies
Under the walls of Paradise.

"Under the walls
Where swells and falls
The Bay's deep breast at intervals,
At peace I lie,
Blown softly by,
A cloud upon this liquid sky.

"The day so mild
Is Heaven's own child
With Earth and Ocean reconciled;—
The airs I feel
Around me steal
Are murmuring to the murmuring keel."

THE BAHAMAS.

TO THOSE INTENDING TO VISIT US—HOW TO GO AND WHAT TO CARRY.

Special correspondence of The Detroit Free Press.

NASSAU, Sept. 15.

A WORD TO THOSE INTENDING TO VISIT US.

Having told you where we live, how we live, and what we live upon, let me say a word to any of your invalid—or healthy readers. For all diseases of the lungs, throat, liver, kidneys or spine, there is no climate on the face of the earth superior, and I doubt if any equal, to the climate of Nassau. While in Florida the mercury often shows a change of twenty to thirty degrees in the temperature in twenty-four and often twelve hours, we never see a change of over five degrees in the same time, and often for weeks there is not a variation of five degrees. Our island being completely surrounded by the ocean, and of not a very high elevation—like Cuba, Jamaica and St. Domingo, or St. Thomas—we have the full benefit of the cool, invigorating sea-breeze, directly from the Atlantic. Some most wonderful cures of pulmonary diseases, asthma, rheumatism, neuralgia and bronchitis have been performed almost entirely by the climate. Let me impress upon you not to delay coming until your disease is so firmly seated that neither climate nor your physician can render you any aid. In the first stage of the disease your recovery is almost certain. In the second stage your chances are more than even. I have known invalids brought on shore on a stretcher, and seen them walking about the streets a week afterwards. If you make up your mind to try our climate, don't put it off too late in the season. You should be here as early as on the first of November, and make up your minds not to leave before the middle of May, or, still better, the first of June. Your ordinary fall clothing will be as thick as you will require in our coolest weather. The price of board at the Royal Victoria Hotel is *three dollars per day*, the smaller hotel charges *one dollar and fifty cents*,

boarding-houses from *ten to fourteen dollars per week*, and some even less. Carriage and boat hire is very reasonable. The white population is very hospitable and kind to strangers—the negroes very civil. Our physicians are considered at the head of the profession and their charges are very moderate. We have Churches of every denomination (of the Christian sect), and our pulpits are supplied with men of more than ordinary intellect. Our custom-house officials are very gentlemanly and never disturb your baggage, and in fact the *whole community* exert themselves to make the sojourn of the stranger pleasant.

It is well to secure your state-room for a trip at least in advance, as you may be crowded out if you put it off until you arrive in New York. It is not a good plan to bring either greenbacks or gold. American gold brings its full value, but there is more or less risk in carrying it about with you. The best plan is to get a letter of credit from a New York banker on their agents here; if you loose it you can get a duplicate. Messrs, MURRAY, FERRIS & CO., 62 South Street, New York, the agents of the steamer, will sell you sight drafts, or issue letters of credit on their agents if you prefer it.

EPES SARGENT.

From the MEDICAL RECORD, February 10, 1877.

THE CLIMATE OF NASSAU.

THE therapeutical effects of climate have become a matter of increasing interest and study. It is of no small importance that the physician should have reliable data upon which to base an opinion as to the probable influence the climate, etc., of any locality is likely to exert upon his patients. Too often the only statistics and reports to be had are those furnished by non-professional and interested persons.

There are very few easily accessible places where a really dry and warm winter climate may be enjoyed. The sanitaria of our Atlantic coast and of the West Indies are all more or less humid. Other influences characterize particularly the resorts in Florida, which detract from their comfort as winter residences. Cold north-easterly winds, laden with moisture, and even frost, may surprise the northern sojourner in most parts of Florida during any of the winter months, and unpleasantly remind one of the lack of home comforts and protection against bad weather.

It is only recently that the attention of the public has been directed to a locality now easily accessible, where violent or even moderate fluctuations of the temperature are rare, and frost is never known.

The Bahama Islands, lying entirely to the eastward of the Gulf Stream, have a range of 550 miles, from northwest to southeast, north latitude 20° 55' to 27° 31', and west longitude 72° 40' to 79° 05'. Some of the islands possess unusual interest to the historian and to the naturalist, but it is chiefly of New Providence and the capital city of the group upon it, Nassau, that we shall speak, and of its claims as a winter residence for the invalid and pleasure-seeker. It lies in latitude 25° 5' north, and longitude 77° 20' west. It is of small extent, being about seventeen miles long by seven wide, with an area of eighty-five square miles; but little of it is cultivated, the surface being thickly covered with a luxuriant, semi-tropical vegetation. * * * *

There is quite a forest of pines—the *Pinus Bahamiensis*—in the middle of the island; and here, as elsewhere, the visitor is astonished at the immense number of orchids—mostly varieties of epiphytes—which cling to the branches. The botanist from the States may revel in a new flora, with hardly a familiar species to remind him of home. * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

The drinking water is of two kinds—that from reservoirs, being stored rain-water collected from the roofs of houses; and that from wells. The former only is generally used by the well-to do white population, exclusively so at the hotel, and is an unusually good potable water. * *

The surface drainage of the city is excellent. Water soon disappears, either through the gutters cut in the stone—which, by the way, are very good—at the roadside, or by percolation. It would hardly be possible to find a stagnant pool of any kind. The streets are very neat, and as both the narrow sidewalks and the carriage-ways, are cut on the native rock, and are equally hard and clean, it is more customary to walk on the latter than the former. All the roads throughout the island are of the same character, constructed by the government, and kept in repair by convict labor. There is no dust.

The mean temperature during the winter months is somewhat higher than at other health resorts, as is shown by the following comparisons:

Place.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April
Nassau, N. P.....	76.8	73.6	73.6	73.7	75.4	76.1
Savannah, Ga.....	58.6	51.5	52.2	54.5	60.4	67.7
Jacksonville, Fla...	64.1	54.2	56.4	56.1	64.2	67.8
St. Augustine, Fla.	64.1	57.2	57.0	59.9	63.3	68.8
Pilatka, Fla.....	61.5	56.0	57.2	58.3	64.1	71.2
San Diego, Cal.....	56.9	51.7	51.9	53.3	56.0	61.2

But the average mean temperature of a month may be quite deceptive. It is the diurnal and from day to day fluctuations which are of the greatest importance and have the most influence upon the health of invalids. In this particular Nassau has an advantage over any locality on the Atlantic side of the continent.

No other place we know of so well fulfills the requirements of a winter sanitarium in this respect as Nassau. * * * * * * * * *

The Royal Victoria Hotel is perhaps superior to any in the South in its hygienic appointments, and is equaled by few anywhere. Its table is supplied with excellent food, well prepared.

To briefly recapitulate: From November to April, Nassau has a warm and remarkably equable climate.

It has a moderate degree of humidity.

Its surface is well covered with vegetation.

Its drainage, chiefly by subsidence into the rock, is good

Its stored drinking water is ample in supply, and healthful.

It is quite free from malarious and other endemic diseases.

[Extracts from letters from Hon. C. L. MacArthur.]

"BAHAMA BUBBLES."—LIFE IN NASSAU.

[Editor's Correspondence of the Troy Budget.]

ARRIVED.

NASSAU, New Providence, Bahamas, Wednesday, March 8.—We arrived here yesterday morning at nine o'clock, having left Savannah on Saturday, at 2 p. m., in

THE STEAMER

which leaves Savannah every ten days for Nassau. She is admirably adapted for this route. The appointments of the vessel are all complete and first-class for the comfort of passengers, and the table is superior to that of most vessels that I have been on along the American coast. Purser WILDMAN and the steward are unremitting in their efforts to make the voyage pleasant. When we arrived at the Royal Victoria Hotel yesterday

THE THERMOMETER

stood at 74 degrees, and it does not vary more than four or five degrees from this during the twenty-four hours of the day, or for the week. The daily average of the thermometer for March ranges from 72 the lowest, to 79 the highest. As I write, from my window can be seen masses of

DELICIOUS VERDURE,

overflowing from walled gardens and grounds on all sides, wherein orange trees loaded with both fruit and blossoms, palm trees, silk cotton trees in full pod and leaf, cactus, crape myrtle, tuberose, jasmine, geraniums, etc., are prominent in the foreground. There are oleanders everywhere—here it is an outdoor tree—covered with a profusion of red, white, pink, scarlet, and variegated flowers. They grow thirty feet high, and are always in blossom. Nearly all the flowers here are perennial, and the landscape is profusely dotted with their charming shades and glows. This is the home of the night-blooming cereus. There is an infinite variety of roses here in the full bloom of their pristine beauty. There is

SUPERB FISHING

all about Nassau and the outlying islands. The water is beautifully clear and transparent, and with the aid of a water-glass it is claimed that the sands, shells, fish, coral and submarine plants may be seen at the bottom to the depth of some seventy feet. I reserve for future letters a description of our hotel,

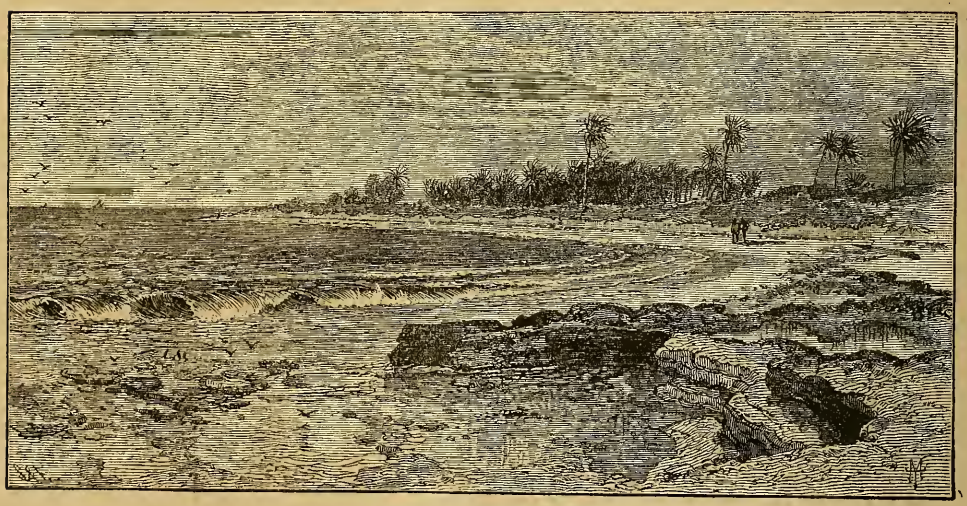
THE ROYAL VICTORIA,

which is admirably kept. It is a model of neatness throughout, first-class in everything, with very moderate charges. Last night, sitting in the open air in its front, with the odors of orange blossoms wafted on the genial air, the evening hours were whiled away in listening to the melodies and string-music ground out by groups of darkey minstrels.

MAC.

ON THE CONSTANT GO.

NASSAU, New Providence, March 16.—We have been in this delightful winter resort for eight days, during which time we have been on the constant go, the time gliding by as if propelled by the wings of birds of paradise. The ceaseless activity generated by a Northern clime has gradually given way to the lazy indolence of tropical life. We don't rush at activities with the hungry vigor we did on first landing, but take things much easier. If there is any overworked Trojan who wants to learn to be absolutely lazy, let him come to the Bahamas immediately.



A LITTLE COVE AT NASSAU.

DREAMY REPOSE

is the normal state of human existence here, and it is astonishing to see how quick our Northerners drop into the *dolce far niente* life that prevails here generally. There is enough to do, however, in the sporting and amusement line, if one so desires. Fine fishing, sailing over crystal waters through a magnificent bay, excursions to the neighboring islands, beautiful drives, and all the diversions of refined and hospitable social life invite the sojourner to their enjoyment. We saw on this day, and at other times, that most remarkable of all growths.

THE BANYAN TREE.

Its main limbs are usually fifteen or twenty feet from the earth, and after they have grown out horizontally from the trunk some twenty or thirty feet, the branches turn down to the earth, taking root and forming a column as support for its parent branch as well as another tree of itself. Some of these trees form vast circles with columns supporting dense leafy roofs. It is a very curious tree, furnishing friendly shade, ever extending by new trunks, ever widening its circle by its tops striking down and taking root, and every new growth and stem being still a part of the parent tree to which it is ligamented as were the Siamese twins. If there is any such thing as an earthly,

DREAMY, SENSUOUS PARADISE,

I should think it might be found under a banyan tree in the delicious midwinter climate of Nassau. This leafy paradise should be enjoyed in a hammock swung from the banyan's branches. You can get a very good manilla hammock for fifty cents. A delicious cigar, such as is found here, will help to intensify the tropical felicity. If that don't do it, the Cannabis Indica grows within sight, from which is derived the famous hasheesh, which is the king of all narcotics in weaving a dreamy spell about its votaries. The air will be spiced with the fragrance of the pimento of commerce, for here grows the tree. If you want to take a dose of medicine prior to taking your banyan tree siesta, here's the spot where the drug can be easiest had. Here grows from the sands of the sea-shore the dear friend of our earlier youth, old squills. He's a lily-like plant with a bulbous root like an onion, and by his side is the companion of our later growth, ipecac, who never failed in hours of agony to come to our relief when squills were in vain. If you would dispel your malady with none of these, then reach out and pluck the Castor Bean, whose genial juice in the shape of Castor oil is familiar to juvenile days. Castor oil isn't a bad beverage in this its native clime. We know a person who was persuaded to take a dose of it and found it very pleasant and effective. Two drops were taken in a pint of sherry, and I recommend all invalids to take it that way. But as we dreamily open our eyes from our siesta in the hammock under the banyan tree shade, let our gaze fall on something more delightful to the senses. Very well, yonder are

THE FEATHERY TOPS

of the cocoa palm loaded with green cocoa nuts. Bring us one of those green cocoas and open its soft shell, and we shall have from "the milk in the cocoa nut" a delicious drink fit for the gods. Higher still than the cocoa palm does the royal palm, the king of all the palms, send its noble tops far up in the tropical ether. Crouching lower down grows the cinnamon tree, most delightfully aromatic of all the restorative spices. Here, too, the pleased eyes fall on all the green and golden fruits of

"THE ORCHARDS OF THE HESPERIDES."

There's the cashew, sweet and sour sops, all the oranges, lemon and citric growths, star apples, seaside and other grapes, watermelons, Spanish and cocoa plums, mammee, plaintain, banana, love in a mist, guava, tamarind, custard apple, bread fruit, Spanish fig, shaddock, rose apples, pomegranates, dates, balsam apple, mulberry, jujube, papaw, and I can't tell the reader how many more. Returning to the hotel we passed numerous

GROVES OF COCOA TREES,

loaded with clusters of cocoa nuts almost ripe. A grove of cocoa trees is one of the most picturesque and pleasant features of a Bahama landscape. Returning by a road that skirts the beach, in the inland direction near by was a range of hills that slope up about ninety feet above the level of the sea. Nassau lies at the foot of a portion of this range, and spreads back from the sea to the summit of the hills.

We arrived back at our hotel in the

DELICIOUS COOL OF THE EVENING,

the thermometer standing at about 70 degrees. While we have been here the range of the thermometer has been from 69 to 76 degrees. At this season it rarely varies more than four or five degrees in twenty-four hours. The days are bright and beautiful, for a couple of weeks there has been no rain, and the nights are brilliant and sparkling with the glow and flame of tropical skies. Low down in the horizon the famous constellation of

THE SOUTHERN CROSS

flames and glows with tropical brilliance. We sat up late o' nights to catch the first fires of its flame in the far South, and got up in the early hours before the breaking of the dawn to gaze on its radiance as seen from the observatory of the Royal Victoria Hotel.

EVENING SHADES AND MORNING GLOWS.

While the evenings are beautiful, still more delightful are the mornings, when the sun first "opes the gates of day." Then the landscape looks delightfully fresh and green, and the air is redolent of all the flowers and odors of "Araby the blest." In the rising glories of the morn it seemed as if

"The Queen of the Spring as she passed in full sail,
Left her robe on the trees and her breath on the gale."

A MOONLIGHT NIGHT

on the observatory of the Victoria Hotel, while you are watching for the Southern Cross to straighten itself up on the rim of the southern horizon, is a thing long to be remembered and cherished, especially if enjoyed under favorable auspices. Up high in the heavens is the chaste mild moon coursing her silent journey on through the dazzling ether, pouring down a flood of silvery radiance. Yonder is the crystal bay, its waters gleaming with diamond, opalescent and phosphorescent flames, under the glow of the pale moonlight. Lights are dancing on the rippling waves, as yachts and pleasure boats spread their wings to the gently moving breeze. There's Hog Island, (IDA GREELEY gave it the more poetic name of Porcina,) with its green and emerald crown, quietly and dreamily sleeping in the white haze beyond the bay; and beyond that, stretching away until sea and sky blend in the harmonious horizon, lies the ocean, its waves breaking in dreamy murmurings on the island beach. Intermediate between your lookout in the observatory and the bay, peep out the white roof tops of Nassau dwellings and church and cathedral spires, the tall cocoa and silk cotton

trees blending their beautiful green tops with the diamond-peaked roofs of the town. It is a waving sea of verdure diversified by islands of white roofs. Still

SWEEPING THE HORIZON

with the eye, the white monumental outline of the light-house stands sentry at the junction of bay and ocean, in the northwest, plumb up against the deep blue wall of the sky. On the west of the government house looms up from the verdure of feather palm-tree tops; and beyond that, on the hill range, looking in the moonlight like an old ruin on the Rhine, stands Fort Charlotte, hallowed by the memory of the Earl of Dunmore, memorably connected with our American Revolutionary struggle, who built it about 1788, just as our United States were in the first years of that infant nationality which our victorious arms had wrung from one of the Georges whose Queen this fort was named in honor of. Towering above the sea of foliage, here and there are Royal African Palms, the monarchs of all the palm-tree kind. In front of the government house, peeping out from the foliage of tropical trees, may be seen the white statue of COLUMBUS, modeled by the aid of our own WASHINGTON IRVING, who was in London at the time of its conception. To the southwest some three miles distant gleam the crystal waters of the Lake of Killarney. In the same direction the blue hills of New Providence pencil their outlines against the sky. On the hills to the east stands Fort Fincastle, a prominent feature in the landscape. "Swinging around the circle" still farther to the east and north, the vision again takes in the outlying waters of the bay, which are gemmed with several small verdure-covered islands surrounded by crystal waters, like emeralds surrounded by diamond settings. Our notes mention the fact that while taking in the

ENJOYMENT OF THIS OUTLOOK

from Victoria's top by moonlight, "there was a sound of revelry by night" on that occasion, and "music rose with its voluptuous swell," and the Consul told stories of stump campaigning in New York and Ohio, and repeated most admirably T. BUCHANAN READ'S poem of "Drifting," most appropriate to the time and scene; and altogether there was a very good time. That night's experience is a fragrant leaf on which is recorded in life's book one of the most delicious memories of Nassau. MAC.

From NEW REMEDIES, February, 1877, by F. A. Castle, M. D. Editor.

THE BAHAMAS AS A HEALTH-RESORT.

A TRIP combining motives both of business and of pleasure led us, in the early part of the winter, to visit a group of islands lying about thirty hours' sail to the eastward of Florida, known as the Bahamas. * * * * * * * *

To reach the Bahamas is by no means difficult, for during the season a steamer leaves Pier 16, East River, every week, going either direct, or stopping at Savannah on the way, and the traveller has the choice of a trip of five days by sea or a ride in the cars to Savannah, and a shorter voyage of about forty hours from there.

For some persons the first would be advisable, and such can be assured that the steamers of the line are carefully sailed and well supplied. Both in going and coming, the writer made the trip by sea the whole distance, and the attention and carefulness of the officers was a subject of grateful comment. The lower portion of the route is generally made in smooth water, and the motion is not disagreeable. The trip by way of Savannah has the advantage of being almost entirely limited to the smooth water, so that persons who suffer much from sea-sickness, and do not require the voyage as a part of their treatment, can usually reach the islands without discomfort.

* * * * * * * * * * *

In those forms of lung trouble where there is profuse expectoration and perspiration, we should hardly think of recommending patients to visit the Bahamas. But in the early stages of chronic pneumonia and catarrhal pneumonia, in tuberculosis, convalescence from acute diseases, in malarial affections, and in exhaustion from over-work and worry, the advantage of being able to live, if necessary, out of doors, without the fatigue of heavy clothing; the comparative freedom from risk of catching cold, and the purity of the atmosphere, render this one of the most healthful as well as available resorts of which we have any knowledge.

(New York Evangelist, March 30.)

NASSAU IN THE BAHAMAS.

By Rev. NELSON MILLARD, D. D.

NASSAU, N. P., March 14, 1876.

Editor Evangelist:—As I write the date at the head of this letter, I recall that it is two months to a day since we landed at Nassau. Although it was a January morning, our judgments needed to correct our senses, in order to believe that it was not a June afternoon. Indeed, one soon comes to feel in tropical and semi-tropical climes that TENNYSON might have called not only the fabled home of his Lotus Eaters, but many an actual region, "a land where it was always afternoon;" for in these realms of sun and palm a dreamy, *afternoon* softness suffuses, almost perpetually, scene and sea and sky. And yet they are flooded, too, with a splendor and a glory unknown to our more sombre Northern climes. The midday, in its overflowing brilliance, makes one feel as if, according to MILTON'S superb expression, "another morn had risen on mid-noon." The very ocean loses its Northern aspect of gray sombreness or monotonous blue, and is here dashed and permeated with ever varying colors, as if it had caught and imprisoned some of the rays of the many thousand suns that have sunk into its bosom, or the iris hues of the rainbows that have spread their glories over its "mirrors large and round."

Until one has become accustomed to their strangeness, the novelty of these regions challenges the Northern eye fully as much as their beauty. The questions that rose earliest and involuntarily to our lips, were, "Can this be a part of the same earth we have always known, or have we reached the shores of a new and more beautiful planet?" The first experience here, I think,

of any one accustomed to our less luxuriant latitudes, would be that of being surrounded by a new heaven and a new earth, wherein dwelleth not, indeed, perfect righteousness, but where beauty, balminess, and bloom find their perpetual home.

All the islands of this Bahama group are of coral origin. Fertile by virtue of soil, the Bahamas are not; for like most coral islands, they have but a thin covering of earth. But vegetation here performs the prodigy once attributed to the chameleon—it lives on air. At least let it obtain but some little hold in the pores, or along the disintegrating surface, of the coral rocks, and an atmosphere which never knows frosts seems to compel it to grow. Unlike the seed in the Parable of the Sower, which fell where there was "no deepness of earth," it does not wither away; but nourished by what may be fairly called a *fertile* air, it comes to bloom and fruitage in the orange, or waves long plumes and bannerets in the palm.

The year at the Poles has, it is said, but one day; so here, we may say, it has but one season. For in a land where the thermometer's midday marking averages seventy-five degrees in January, and eighty-five degrees in August, it is evident that the seasons are little more than a name. Certainly Nassau needs only to be known to become the great resort of those who desire to exchange for six months of the year Northern snows for Southern suns. It is the climate of climates; so say travelled invalids, of whom one naturally meets many here. As equable in temperature as St. Croix, it is not so uncomfortably warm; as balmy as Egypt, it is for inhabitants of the United States much nearer at hand. *Sudden changes* of temperature, which are the bane of most winter resorts, are here unknown. The "northers," which bring nipping frosts to the orange groves of Florida, and which even at Havana send people shivering indoors, signify here only a decline in the thermometer's midday mark from seventy-five to seventy degrees. Most of the time the days roll on in a nearly unvarying warmth, in a seldom interrupted sunshine, and with an almost constant trade-wind breeze. Such a climate, if resorted to in time, often works with wondrously curative power upon affections of the throat, bronchia and lungs—as, in the case of bronchitis, I can testify from personal experience. And in such a climate there is, especially during the less heated part of the year, but very little indigenous sickness. Indeed, from November to May there is scarcely any sickness in Nassau, save what comes here to be cured.

In this connection I must not omit to add that the hospitality of the inhabitants is as warm and genial as their clime. The polite cordiality extended to non-residents makes them forget they are strangers in a strange land.

About all the religious denominations that would be met with at the North, in a city of 10,000 inhabitants, have organizations here.

A hotel so well kept as the Royal Victoria at Nassau, deserves a word of mention before I close. It can challenge comparison with any throughout the Southern States or West Indies, having few equals, and no superior, among them all.

On the whole, let me say, (if it be not too nearly an Irish bull), that if one is compelled at some period of his life to have an experience of hibernation, let him have it in this land of perpetual *Summer*. If one *must* rest, Nassau is an earthly Paradise; but far more attractive than rest in any earthly Eden, is the prospect of a return, upon the accession of Summer weather at the North, to Syracuse, to home, and to the Master's work.

"R. O. B.," a passenger by the October steamer, writes to the *Home Journal*, Nov. 14, as follows:

NASSAU, Oct., ——, 1877.

* * * * There is so much to attract and charm one in these tropical islands, that one is not surprised at the enthusiasm expressed by Columbus to his sovereigns in the following sentences attributed to him:—"The loveliness of these new lands is like that of the Campiña de Cordoba. The trees are all covered with ever verdant foliage and perpetually laden with fruits and flowers. The plants on the ground are full of blossoms. These breezes are like those of April in Castille. The nightingales" (he was probably thinking of the mocking-birds) "sing more sweetly than I can describe. * * * * It seems to me as if I could never quit a spot so delightful; as if a thousand tongues would fail to describe it; as if the spell-bound hand would refuse to write." It is to be expected that the breast of an explorer would glow with an enthusiasm not to be awakened in an invalid exiled from the social gayeties and other metropolitan delights of a New York winter; but when, last December, we stood for the first time on the broad balcony of the hotel, and looked at the charming picture spread before us, and contrasted the delicious, equable climate with the frosty, murderous one we had left behind, at least we understood the frame of mind in which Christopher Columbus had written.

One is enchanted at every turn in Nassau with charming effects in color. The foliage is in every shade of green, and has all the lightness, freshness, and transparency that one finds in early spring at home, united with the richest and densest verdure of the tropics. This, under a cloudless sky of the loveliest azure, and against walls tinged like the vermilion towers of the Alhambra, with glimpses of the sea thrown in, *ad libitum*, makes a combination of color that is the despair of the artist. * * * * * * *

For *Itinerary of Steamship Routes and Excursion Trips*, also *The Royal Victoria Hotel*, see next pages.

ITINERARY.

The Service for the Winter of 1877–8 will be performed as follows:

The new Screw Steamship CARONDELET, 1,500 tons burden, will leave New York, monthly, for Nassau *direct*, thence to Santiago and Cienfuegos, Cuba, returning to Nassau and New York.

The first-class Iron Side-wheel Steamship SAN JACINTO, 1,400 tons burden, (well-known as the favorite ship of the N. Y. & Savannah line), will leave Savannah every other Tuesday, calling at St. Augustine, and leaving there on Wednesday, thence to Nassau and thence to Havana, returning same route.

Passengers can purchase tickets and leave New York by the direct ship for Nassau, avoiding all changes; or can take one of the new steamships of the Savannah line for Savannah, making close connection with the ship from Savannah; or can proceed, by Railroad, to Savannah; or if they wish to reduce the sea voyage to a minimum, can proceed to St. Augustine by Rail, then taking the Steamship San Jacinto on her arrival from Savannah, the distance from St. Augustine to Nassau being but about 320 miles.

Through tickets will be issued by either route entitling passengers to *stop over* in Nassau, and proceed at their leisure to Havana, Santiago, or Cienfuegos, or round trip tickets, at reduced rates, to *return* via St. Augustine, and thence by all Rail; or to Savannah, and thence by *Steamer* or *Rail* to the North, stopping at points mentioned.

COMBINATION OF EXCURSION TOURS

—TO—

FLORIDA, NASSAU & HAVANA,

AND THE SOUTH SIDE OF CUBA,

FOR WHICH TICKETS CAN BE SUPPLIED BY THE AGENTS OF THE

New York, Nassau and West India Mail S. S. Line,

—AND—

SAVANNAH, NASSAU & HAVANA MAIL S. S. LINE.

EXCURSION No. 1.

NEW YORK TO NASSAU AND RETURN.—Take S. S. Carondelet direct to Nassau and return by same route. Time between Ports, 4½ days. $90.00.

EXCURSION No. 2.

NEW YORK TO NASSAU AND RETURN.—Take S. S. Carondelet direct to Nassau; return by S. S. San Jacinto to St. Augustine, thence Savannah, thence by Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday Steamer to New York. $90.00.

EXCURSION No. 3.

NEW YORK TO NASSAU AND RETURN.—Take Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday Steamer, New York to Savannah; thence by S. S. San Jacinto to St. Augustine, thence to Nassau, and return by S. S. Carondelet direct to New York. $90.00.

EXCURSION No. 4.

NEW YORK TO NASSAU AND RETURN.—Take Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday Steamer, New York to Savannah; thence by S. S. San Jacinto to St. Augustine, thence by S. S. San Jacinto to St. Augustine; thence to Nassau, and return by S. S. San Jacinto to St. Augustine and Savannah, thence Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday Steamer to New York. $95.00.

EXCURSION No. 5.

NEW YORK TO NASSAU, HAVANA, FLORIDA AND RETURN.—Take S. S. Carondelet, New York to Nassau; S. S. San Jacinto, Nassau to Havana; thence return to Nassau, St. Augustine, and Savannah; thence Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday Steamer to New York. $120.00.

EXCURSION No. 6.

NEW YORK TO FLORIDA, NASSAU, HAVANA, CIENFUEGOS, NASSAU, NEW YORK.—Take Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday Steamer, New York to Savannah; thence S. S. San Jacinto, Savannah to St. Augustine, thence to Nassau, thence to Havana, thence by rail Havana to Cienfuegos, thence S. S. Carondelet, Nassau, and return to New York. $.

EXCURSION No. 7.

NEW YORK TO NASSAU, (N. P.), SANTIAGO, CIENFUEGOS AND HAVANA, (CUBA), NASSAU FLORIDA, NEW YORK.—Take S. S. Carondelet to Nassau, thence to Santiago and Cienfuegos, Railroad to Havana, thence S. S. San Jacinto to Nassau, thence to St. Augustine, thence to Savannah, thence by Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday's Steamer to New York. $.

Any of above Excursions via Savannah and St. Augustine, can be arranged to be used via Georgia and Florida Inland Steamboat Company from Savannah to Tocoi, (calling at St. Mary's, Brunswick, Ga.; Fernandina, Fort George, Jacksonville, Green Cove Springs, Florida,) thence by St. John's Railway to St. Augustine, thus including the sail on St. John's River. From Havana, any point in West Indies can be conveniently reached. At Santiago connection is made with Mail Steamer for Kingston, Jamaica; from thence there is mail Steamship communication to all points in the West Indies.

SIDE TOURS from St. Augustine to Enterprise and return. Also from St. Augustine to Silver Springs (Ocklawaha River), and return, and from St. Augustine to New Smyrna, (Indian River), and return, can be procured at lowest rates on application to Agents.

Arrangements are now being made for Excursion Tickets by various rail Lines from New York, Boston and Philadelphia, and all principal points in the West to Savannah, thence to St. Augustine, Nassau, Havana, etc., or *vice versa*, regarding which, Agents can give particular information.

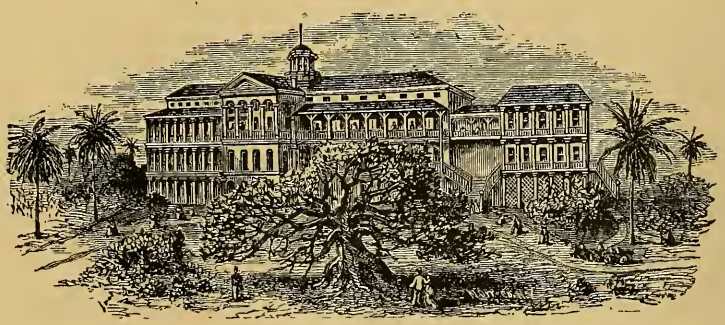
MURRAY, FERRIS & CO., Agents, 62 South St., New York.
HUNTER & GAMMELL, " Savannah.
R. F. ARMSTRONG, Agent, St. Augustine.
A. M. BECK, So. Passenger Agent, Jacksonville, Fla.
GUSTAVE LEVE, Gen. Pass. Agent, 271 Broadway, New York.

ROYAL VICTORIA HOTEL,

NASSAU, N. P.

The Royal Victoria Hotel was built by the Government in 1860, to meet the demands of invalids and others seeking to avail themselves of the peculiar natural advantages offered by Nassau for a winter residence, and neither pains nor expense was spared in answering the requirements of the most modern and scientific theories of architecture.

The building is of limestone—four stories high; each of the three first stories being surrounded by a piazza ten feet wide, forming an uninterrupted promenade of over one thousand feet in extent—affording to those unable to withstand the fatigue of out-door exercise, perfect facilities for enjoying the fine scenery and refreshing breezes. The rooms are large and perfectly ventilated; those of the first, second and third stories being provided with French casements, opening on the piazza, and each door and window having a fan-light. The house is provided with bath-rooms and other modern improvements. The tanks for rain water exceed 300,000 gallons in capacity; while spring water is forced through the building from a fine well on the premises. The parlors are large and conveniently situated. The dining room will seat one hundred and fifty persons comfortably. Sea bathing is conveniently near the house, and salt water baths, either in the bathing rooms or private apartments, can be furnished at all times.



The Hotel has recently changed hands, the present proprietors being

MELLEN, CONOVER & KING.

Mr. A. L. MELLEN, and the superintendent, H. L. HOYT, have been for the past two years connected with the Grand Union Hotel, Saratoga. Mr. A. H. KING, of this firm, can be consulted as to particulars, during the entire season, at 115 Broadway, New York, where plans of the house can be seen and rooms engaged.

The table will be of unsurpassed excellence, furnished with the choicest meats, game and vegetables from Fulton Market, New York, together with the fish and turtles from the markets of Nassau, which have no equal for variety and quality; all of which will be prepared for the table under the personal supervision of Mr. A. Schelscher, the well-known *chef de cuisine*, late of the Grand Union Hotel, Saratoga Springs, N. Y., whose skill and thorough education entitle him to the foremost position among the artists of his class.

The Terms of the Hotel have been reduced to $3.00 per day, American Currency. Children and Servants half price.

The Season opens November 1st, and closes May 15th. The proprietors offer every assurance to their guests that all possible will be done to make their stay pleasant and agreeable.

For Florida and all Points South and Southwest.

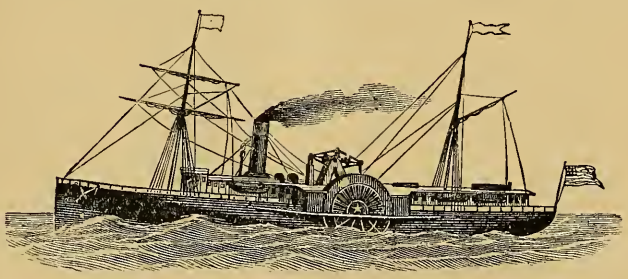
THE

GREAT SOUTHERN ROUTE,

PASSENGER AND FREIGHT

VIA

NEW YORK AND SAVANNAH STEAMSHIP LINE.



One of the following first-class Steamships will sail from New York as follows, punctually at 3 o'clock P. M.,

EVERY TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY:

H. LIVINGSTON, GENERAL BARNES,
SAN SALVADOR, RAPIDAN.

And the New and Elegant Steamships,

CITY OF MACON AND CITY OF SAVANNAH.

2,250 Tons Burthen each.

The above Steamships will connect at Savannah with CENTRAL RAILROAD OF GEORGIA. Two trains daily for all points in Middle, North and Southwest Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Louisiana, and with the ATLANTIC AND GULF RAILROAD, to all points in Florida, Southern and Middle Georgia, and with Steamers in the Chattahoochee River. Two trains daily between Savannah and Jacksonville, Fla. Pullman's Palace Sleeping Cars and Parlor Coaches attached to both trains. Also, with the **Savannah, Nassau and Havana Mail Steamship Line.**

STEAMSHIP SAN JACINTO,

Leaving Savannah EVERY OTHER TUESDAY (upon the arrival of the Steamship City of Macon from New York), for ST. AUGUSTINE, NASSAU and HAVANA, making a most delightful WINTER EXCURSION. Also with the GEORGIA AND FLORIDA INLAND STEAMBOAT CO.'s STEAMERS CITY OF BRIDGETON and DAVID CLARK. These boats will make close connection with the New York and Savannah Steamships. Their route will be through the inland passage formed by the Sea Islands and Coast Rivers between Savannah and the St. John's River, touching at all points on the St John's River. Families *en route* for Florida, Nassau and Havana, Georgia, Alabama, and even as far as New Orleans, will find the Savannah Route the most enjoyable for comfort, as well as saving in expense.

The Florida Steamers leave Savannah three days in the week, for all points on the Coast.

For Freight or Passage by ships sailing on Thursdays, from Pier 16, East River, apply to

MURRAY, FERRIS & CO., Agents, 62 South Street.

For Freight or Passage by ships sailing from Pier 43, North River, on Tuesdays and Saturdays, apply to

GEORGE YONGE, Agent, 409 Broadway.

FLORIDA AND THE SOUTH!

VIA

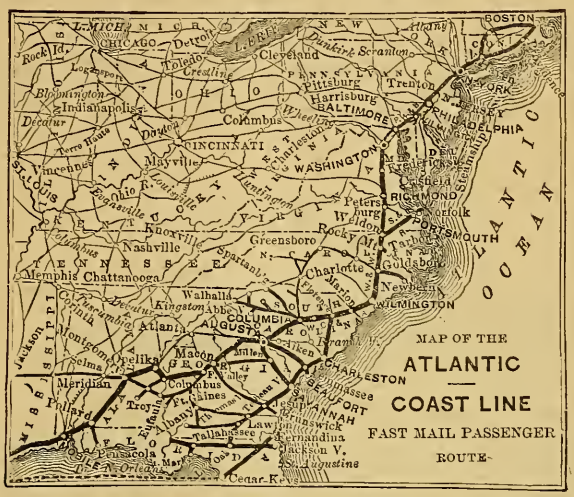
Atlantic Coast Line Fast Mail Passenger Route,

COMPRISING

RICHMOND & PETERSBURG; PETERSBURG, WILMINGTON & WELDON; WILMINGTON, COLUMBIA & AUGUSTA; NORTH-EASTERN, CHARLOTTE, COLUMBIA & AUGUSTA; GEORGIA, MACON & AUGUSTA RAILROADS,

AND CONNECTING LINES TO

NORTH!



SOUTH!

Charleston, Columbia, Aiken, Augusta, Port Royal, Savannah, Jacksonville, Tallahasse, Cedar Keys, St. Augustine, Nassau, Havana, &c., &c., and to Macon, Atlanta, Columbus, Montgomery, Selma, Mobile, New Orleans, Galveston, &c., &c.

The geographical position of this Line enables passengers to enjoy the influence of the Southern climate much earlier than by any other route between the North and South.

The Savannah, Nassau and Havana Mail Steamship Co.'s

First-class line of Steamers connect SAVANNAH with NASSAU and HAVANA twice a month, touching both ways, at ST. AUGUSTINE. Through tickets on sale at all Pennsylvania and Baltimore & Ohio Railroad's offices in the East, to Nassau and Havana.

The roads forming this thoroughfare have been greatly improved, the old iron rails being replaced with steel rails.

Westinghouse Automatic Air Brakes on Passenger Cars.

Parlor and Pullman Sleeping Car service perfected.

Double daily trains between New York and Charleston, S. C.

For reservations of Sections, Berths, Chairs, Tickets, Time-Tables, apply at the NEW YORK OFFICE, 229 BROADWAY, or at the authorized Ticket Offices of the Pennsylvania or Baltimore & Ohio Railroads.

JONAH H. WHITE, Southern Passenger Agent, General Office, 229 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, will answer all communications addressed to him.

A. POPE, *General Passenger and Ticket Agent.*

A. SHAW, *Supt. R. & P. R. R.* ***R. M. SULLY,*** *Gen. Supt. P. R. R.*

Nov. 19, 1877.

TOURIST, INVALID AND PLEASURE TRAVEL

—TO—

FLORIDA,

NASSAU AND HAVANA.

THE OLD ESTABLISHED AND RELIABLE

GREAT SOUTHERN MAIL ROUTE,

FROM

Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore & Washington,

VIA

LYNCHBURG, BRISTOL, DALTON,

TO

ATLANTA, MONTGOMERY, MOBILE, NEW ORLEANS,

ALL POINTS IN

ALABAMA, MISSISSIPPI, LOUISIANA & TEXAS,

OFFERS ALSO UNSURPASSED INDUCEMENTS TO

FLORIDA TRAVEL.

Pullman Car Service Entire Route.

All Trains equipped with elegant Day Coaches, Miller's Coupler Platform, Air Brakes. Ample time allowed for meals at first-class eating houses.

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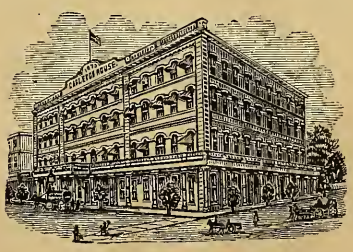

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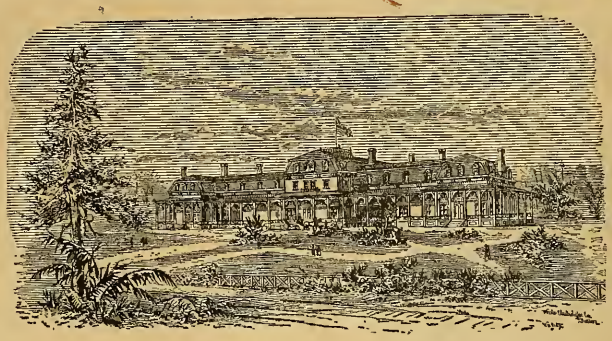

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